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Zholkver Comments on NATO Weapons Buildup
LD222020 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 22 Oct 87

[Aleksandr Zholkver commentary from the "Latest News" program]

[Text][Announcer] U.S. equipment has begun to arrive at the Woensdrecht Air Base in the Netherlands for the siting there of U.S. cruise missiles. Here is a "Latest News" commentary. Political Observer Aleksandr Zholkver is at the microphone.

[Zholkver] The report from the Netherlands cannot fail to cause concern. What is actually occurring? An accord in principle has been reached between the USSR and the United States on the elimination of medium- and shorter-range missiles. U.S. Secretary of State Shultz has arrived in Moscow for talks on implementing this accord, and at the very same time preparations are under way for the siting of a fresh detachment of U.S. missiles in Western Europe, specifically 48 cruise missiles.

Let me note that unfortunately this is not an isolated incident. In Brussels, where NATO headquarters is situated, speeches have just been made by two prominent figures in the North Atlantic bloc: Britain's Lord Carrington, its secretary-general, and West Germany's General Altenburg, chairman of NATO's Military Committee. Both of them view the elimination of two classes of nuclear missiles in Europe with evident dissatisfaction, and continue to advocate a policy of nuclear deterrence. Moreover, both Altenburg and Carrington are urging the further build-up of conventional armaments and in this connection are calling for long-term planning.

Also of note is the audience addressed by the two Atlantic leaders. It was an association of representatives of major concerns in Western Europe, above all electronic concerns. It is fairly well-known that for them military orders are very profitable business. The NATO leadership is now attempting to placate them by saying that military production must continue. However, this is precisely what is opposed by the majority of people in Western Europe itself, and also in other regions.

In this regard, what has been said by Australian Senator (Saunders) is of interest. He has just completed a long trip around Western Europe. After returning home, he stated in parliament the following:

I was shocked by the stances of the NATO politicians, who have learned to love the atom bomb and, however improbable it may seem, consider it possible to win a nuclear war. NATO needs to open its doors to the real world, a world in which public opinion already has rejected the permanent threat of a nuclear war.

I rather think that the Atlantic politicians should pay heed to the opinion of the senator from the far-off continent. As for our country, we consistently advocate both nuclear and conventional disarmament.

Test Verification Equipment Installed in U.S.
LD221644 Moscow TASS in English 1627 GMT 22 Oct 87

[Text] San Francisco October 22 TASS—Seismic equipment for registering underground nuclear explosions was installed by American scientists in California. The equipment was placed in a well sunk expressly for the purpose to over 100 metres. Before this weekend such instruments will be installed also in two remote districts of Nevada state.

The experiment whose purpose is to verify possibilities of using seismic instruments for tracing nuclear tests and measuring the yield of explosions is held in the framework of a non-governmental agreement between the Natural Resources Defence Council of the USA and the USSR Academy of Sciences.

Last February specialists of the Scripps Institution of Oceanography visited the Soviet Union to install similar devices in Kazakhstan jointly with Soviet experts. The UPI news agency stresses that the Reagan administration does not support the programme worked out by scientists of the two countries. The U.S. Department of State denied entrance visas to Soviet reasearchers who were to arrive for the participation in the installation of seismic equipment on the American territory.

Bloc Leaders Cited on Arms Agreement

PM221215 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 9 Oct 87 Second Edition p 4

[TASS reports under general heading: "Hope and Optimism"]

[Text] Berlin, 8 Oct—The creation of a socialist state on German soil is a noteworthy event in the history of the German people. Erich Honecker stated this at a reception organized here by the SED Central Committee and the GDR Council of State and Council of Ministers to mark the 38th anniversary of the formation of the GDR.

The people of the GDR, he said, are celebrating Republic Day on the eve of a noteworthy jubilee—the 70th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution, which opened a new era in the history of mankind. The transformations which were made possible thanks to the triumph of Great October include the formation of the GDR.

Now the GDR is one of the most developed industrial states, and its economy is characterized by the high dynamism of its development. The Republic pursues a policy of dialogue and cooperation in the international arena designed to consolidate universal peace. This is particularly topical today when mankind is still threatened by the danger of nuclear catastrophe. The main task of the day is to remove it forever. This could be largely facilitated by the conclusion of an agreement between the USSR and the United States on the elimination of medium- and shorter-range nuclear missiles. The attainment of an accord in principle on this question inspires hope and optimism. The GDR entirely welcomes such a development. New steps in the disarmament sphere must follow in the wake of the first step. This will enable us to rid Europe and the entire world of nuclear weapons and will promote a considerable reduction in conventional armaments, E. Honecker indicated.

Sofia, 8 Oct—Bulgaria and Romania welcome the attainment of an accord in principle between the USSR and the United States on the elimination of medium- and shorter-range missiles. Both countries think that the signing of a treaty would be a historic event, which would begin the phased elimination of all means of mass destruction. This was said in the course of talks betwen Todor Zhivkov and Nicolae Ceaucescu, who is in Bulgaria on an official friendly visit.

The Bulgarian leader noted the tremendous satisfaction with which the Bulgarian people welcomed the ideas and proposals to create an all-embracing system of international security, expounded in the article by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, "Reality and Guarantees for a Secure World." The sides expressed their resolve to strengthen the unity of the fraternal countries in the interests of creating a nuclear-free nonviolent world, devoting particular attention to the need to transform the Balkans into a zone free of nuclear and chemical weapons.

Mediterranean, Mideast CP's Meet

LD221548 Moscow TASS in English 1440 GMT 22 Oct 87

[Text] Athens October 22 TASS—TASS correspondent Anatoliy Tkachuk reports:

Over 200 delegations are attending the third conference of the communist and workers' parties of eastern Mediterranean, the Near and Middle East and the Red Sea area, which opened here Wednesday.

Delivering an opening address to the conference, Kharilaos Florakis, general secretary of the Greek Communist Party Central Committee, said that the conference was of exceptional importance in the light of those events, dangerous to the cause of peace, that are unfolding in the Persian Gulf as a result of the adventurist military actions by the United States.

People in larger numbers realize now that progress of each country and whole regions on our globe, including the area whose representatives assembled in Athens, and also mankind's very survival in this age are insolubly linked with the moves to restrict the arms race, abolish nuclear weapons, overcome backwardness, establish a new international economic order, protect the environment and develop international cooperation in the field of new technologies.

In this age, the socialist world and, first and foremost, the Soviet Union, demonstrating its advantage and the vanguard role, links the revolutionary transformations in its country with the advancement of radical peace initiatives and the development of a new mode of political thinking ahead of the year 2000, Florakis said.

Mikhail Gorbachev's article in *Pravda*, in which an innovative and profoundly realistic analysis and proposals of a secure, nuclear-free and just world are concentrated, is of particular importance from this point of view. We, said Florakis, unreservedly support these proposals and regard them as our common cause.

The leader of the Greek Communists said furthermore that the Greek Communist Party supported the idea of bilateral and multilateral meetings of the fraternal parties of the region to move forward the concrete proposals for removing hotbeds of tension there. He also commended the proposals for convening international conferences on the Middle East and the Cyprus problem and the initiative for holding a Mediterranean forum similar to the Helsinki Conference.

Representative Addresses UNESCO Conference

LD221956 Moscow TASS in English 1914 GMT 22 Oct 87

[Text] Paris October 22 TASS—A mesage of greetings from Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (CPSU), to the participants in the 24th Session of the general conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) has been regarded with great interest and attention. The session is taking place here at the UNESCO headquarters.

The message, which was read out at the session by Anatoliy Adamishin, the leader of the Soviet delegation, deputy minister of foreign affairs of the USSR, chairman of the USSR Commission for UNESCO Affairs, will be circulated as UNESCO's official document.

"The contemporary interconnected and interdependent world is passing through a difficult period," the Soviet representative pointed out in his speech. "But at the same time it is full of hopes for changes for the better. UNESCO, too, is called upon to make a contribution, and perhaps, a more tangible one than before, to the solution of the problems being encountered by mankind on the eve of the 21st century."

"Many see that the world has approached the line crossing beyond which would threaten its physical existence. Tremendous forces have been brought into being, including, unfortunatley, those of disastrous, apocalyptic destruction. Hence the need critically to evaluate the old way of thinking, to make adjustments in the scale of values even if such a scale has been long-settled. Values common to mankind and, first of all, peace should be unambiguously put to the fore. The future of all of us and the survival of terrestrial civilisation depend on that."

"Only one and a half and two years ago the concept of a new thinking seemed to many a philosophical exercise at best. But what a long way has been traversed. One can now really speak, for example, of the elimination of a whole class of nuclear weapons — medium- and shorter-range missiles. If the Soviet-U.S. agreement is carried through, that would signify a major breakthrough for the first time in the history of nuclear confrontation. There is an opportunity to reach accord on the elimination of chemical weapons."

The proposals on serious cuts in conventional forces and arms on the basis of the concept of sufficiency, and not superiority, are on the table of our western partners. Arms reduction is the best way to demilitarise thinking, to liberalise social life, and to create economic, social and cultural conditions which belong to man by right. Who if not UNESCO plays a prominent role in the formation of new, humanistic value landmarks."

[No opening quotation mark as received] Together with our friends — socialist countries — we put forward a proposal at last session of the United Natiosn General Assembly on the establishment of a comprehensive system of international security which should include all major aspects of relations between states: military-political, economic, ecological, and humanitarian. Time has come for UNESCO, too, to act boldly, with new yardsticks corresponding to the new realities."

"It is time to get down in real earnest to the elaboration of a long-term programme for cooperation between states to assert a humane civilized world. The way to it is through the ensurance of the basic rights and freedoms of the individual and of the peoples' rights everywhere, through democratisation of the domestic life of countries in accordance with their peculiarities and historical experience."

"We would like to see our organization, first of all, as the generator of ideas, the organizer of collective work of the best minds of the world, as the centre and neuralgic pole for the defence of such major values common to mankind as peace among nations, natural resources, the environment's and as the world's treasure-house of culture and national distinctiveness."

"UNESCO has everything necessary to become a school of the new thinking, and a useful instrument for establishing international security in the humanitarian field."

"We are for the concept of an effective UNESCO, the organization which would get ahead, and not lag behind," the leader of the Soviet delegation emphasized in conclusion.

Voss Speaks at UN Day Function in Moscow

LD221730 Moscow TASS in English 1706 GMT 22 Oct 87

[Text] Moscow October 22 TASS—TASS correspondent Valeriy Kostylev reports:

"The world in which we live in has become too fragile and small for power politics. It is impossible to save or keep it unless one breaks off firmly and irrevocably with the way of thinking and actions which have been for centuries based on the notion of admissibility of wars and armed conflicts," stated Avgust Voss, chairman of the Soviet of Nationalities of the USSR Supreme Soviet. He spoke here today at a meeting of the Soviet public on the occasion of the United Nations Day and the beginning of a week of action for disarmament.

"The new political thinking", Avgust Voss emphasized, "is based on the idea which is imbued with humanism: Interests common to mankind get undeniable priority over the interests of states, classes, nations, and ideologies under the conditions of the existence of destructive thermo-nuclear weapons".

"The accords in principle reached between the Soviet Union and the United States to eliminate medium- and shorter-range missiles become increasingly tangible. We hope that the conclusion of an agreement to this effect will give an impulse to talks on the entire spectrum of disarmament issues".

"The importance of the United Nations Organization as an instrument for the defence of peace and a mechanism for ensuring international security has markedly grown of late", emphasized Valentin Nikiforov, deputy minister of foreign affairs of the USSR.

"This authoritative international organizations has already done a lot for the formation of a new political thinking and a way of action corresponding to the realities of the nuclear and space age and for overcoming the extremely dangerous notions as to admissability of wars and armed conflicts".

"The constructive initiatives, which have been proposed by the Soviet Union and which rely on a creative, non-standard approach to the topical issues of war and peace, have exterted and continue to exert a great positive influence on the activities of the United Nations Organization. At the same time the situation on the globe still remains highly complex and requires fresh vigorous efforts, including, naturally, U.N. efforts, with a view to taking concrete measures in all spheres of international relations to build a really lasting peace resting not just on the absence of wars but on a reliable, comprehensive system of international security. That should be a nuclear-weapon-free, non-violent and just world. The United Nations Organization is called upon to play a decisive role in accomplishing this vitally important task".

"It is our deep conviction", the deputy minister of foreign affairs of the USSR pointed out, "that international decisions which involve the very foundations of the existence of civilisation should be to an increasing extent coordinated precisely at the United Nations. With this end in view, it is essential to free the United Nations Organization of the practice of nuclear and military force deterrent which fetters its peace-making potential. The said deterrent should be replaced by politio-legal restraint and by security based on trust".

The participants in the meeting sent a message to U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar, calling for greater effectiveness and role of the United Nations Organization in the formation of a comprehensive system of international peace and security.

The meeting heard a message to the Soviet public from U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar on the occasion of United Nations Day and the start of disarmament week.

On instructions from the U.N. secretary-general, the city of Moscow was presented with a diploma, The Message of Peace, for active participation in the programme of International Year of Peace.

Note on Mediterranean Sent to Perez de Cuellar

LD211926 Moscow TASS in English 1840 GMT 21 Oct 87

[Text] New York October 21 TASS—The Soviet Union has been consistently advocating the turning of the Mediterranean out of the arena of military confrontation into a zone of a stable peace and cooperation, points out a letter addressed to the U.N. secretary general in response to his request to the U.N. member countries for conveying their points of view on this issue. the Soviet Union's determination to make a weighty contribution to the improvement of the situation in the region finds its expression in specific proposals which provide, inter alia, for a spread to the region of agreed measures of confidence, reduction in armed forces, a withdrawal of nuclear-armed warships from the Mediterranean and creation in the area of a zone, free from chemical weapons, says the letter.

CEMA Spokesman Addresses UNGA Committee

LD230348 Moscow TASS in English 2250 GMT 22 Oct 87

[Text] New York October 22 TASS—A delegation of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance has come out at the 42nd session of the U.N. General Assembly for the overcoming of confrontation and the establishment of trust in international relations, for the pooling of efforts of all the countries in the realization of a concept of international economic security.

"Reiterating its principled stand with regard to a strict observance of the right of every nation to a free choice of a socio-economic system and a way of development, the CMEA member countries are going to further step up as much as possible economic cooperation with developing countries in various forms", Ladislav Supka from Czechoslovakia, CMEA assistant secretary, said.

Speaking today at the second committee of the U.N. General Assembly which is discussing questions connected with the development and international economic cooperation, he pointed out that measures had been mapped out recently for the restructuring of the mechanism of cooperation and socialist economic integration, as well as of CMEA activities. Their purpose is to promote the reaching of long-term targets of economic and social development and the effective use of advantages of the international socialist division of labour. The CMEA spokesman came out for the increase of U.N. contribution to the solution of global socio-economic problems facing humanity, for the consolidation of its role in the development of international economic, scientific and technical cooperation.

He emphasized that the recognition of the relationship between disarmament and development became evidence and at the same time a measure of realism in the approach to international problems of the late 20th century. Disarmament and development are the foundations of a future all-embracing system of international peace and security that are a complement of each other.

UNGA Delegates Submit Disarmament Drafts

LD230906 Moscow TASS in English 0659 GMT 23 Oct 87

[Text] New York October 23 TASS—Delegates to the 42nd session of the United Nations General Assembly have been calling for specific measures to solve the overriding problem of the times. That of staving off the threat of nuclear annihilation to mankind from either earth or space.

In the first (political and security, including disarmament) committee the delegation from the German Democratic Republic has submitted a draft resolution urging all nuclear weapon powers to open dialogue on goals to be sought in the field of nuclear disarmament.

The resolution suggested, for example, considering the convocation of a special meeting of the Security Council at foreign minister level.

It also stressed the importance of the conclusion of a Soviet-U.S. agreement to abolish all intermediate-range and shorter-range missiles and activating efforts to achieve significant cuts in strategic weapons, while preserving and reinforcing the ABM Treaty.

The delegations from Hungary, the GDR, Cuba and Romania have called for examining the issue of working out an international, legally binding document that would formulate the commitment not to be the first to use nuclear weapons.

Their draft resolution emphasized the importance of all nuclear weapons countries following the example of the Soviet Union and the People's Republic of China and pledging no-first-use of nuclear weapons.

Egypt has sponsored a draft resolution calling for a nuclear-free zone in the Middle East. It stressed the need for all countries in the region to agree to place all their nuclear activities under the control of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) even before such a zone is established.

United States & Canada

Further on Shultz Meetings, Talks in Moscow

Pyadyshev Interviewed

LD221614 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1522 GMT 22 Oct 87

[Text] Moscow, 22 Oct (TASS)—At the Soviet-U.S. talks which began today, the Soviet side favors energetic and constructive measures to remove all obstacles toward working out an agreement on the liquidation of Soviet and U.S. medium- and short-range missiles. This was stated today by Boris Pyadyshev, first deputy chief of the USSR Foreign Ministry Information Directorate, in an interview to a TASS diplomatic correspondent.

The USSR Foreign Ministry representative noted that elements of a constructive approach toward questions being discussed can also be ascertained in the U.S. delegation's position. In order to assist USSR Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze and U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz on the most important problems which they are discussing at the talks, several groups of experts of the two countries have been created and have already started work.

After the completion of the first day of talks, representatives of the ministers will hold a briefing for Soviet and foreign journalists.

U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz arrived in Moscow this morning in order to conduct talks with USSR Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze. The talks are expected to end tomorrow.

Shultz, Shevardnadze Talks

LD221954 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 22 Oct 87

[Text] The talks between Eduard Amvrosiyevich Shevardnadze, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR foreign minister, and U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz started today. The sides are focusing on issues related to the problems of reducing and liquidating nuclear arms, strengthening the ABM Treaty, and other issues pertaining to the area of security.

During the course of today's discussion, which was conducted in a businesslike and constructive spirit, the results of the work that has been done so far by the delegation of the USSR and United States at the Geneva talks on nuclear and space weapons were summed up; particular attention was given to preparing the text of an accord on liquidating Soviet and U.S. medium- and short-range missiles, in light of the basic agreement attained in this area during the meeting between the USSR foreign minister and the U.S. secretary of state this September in Washington. In particular, the issues which the delegations have failed to harmonize completely in Geneva were examined in detail. The sides also paid great attention to other steps in the sphere of arms limitation and reduction. In this connection it was stated that progress in the matter of working out an agreement on a 50% reduction of strategic offensive arms could impart a new impulse to the talks across the entire series of the problems of disarmament.

The Soviet side stated that progress in this direction and, moreover, in the nearest future, is possible on the basis of mutual adherence to the principle of equality and equal security, which indisputably presupposes strict observation of the ABM Treaty.

The U.S. side made reservations, evidencing the persistent striving of the U.S. for creating [sozdaniye] space weapons which are outside the limits of the treaty. At the same time, there is understanding about the intensification of work on agreements on strategic offensive weapons and space which would be acceptable to the two sides.

The talks between Eduard Amvrosiyevich Shevardnadze and George Shultz were mainly conducted with a limited number of participants: On the Soviet side—Dobrynin, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and Bessmertnykh, USSR deputy foreign minister; and on the U.S. side—Carlucci, and Ridgway, assistant secretary of state.

A plenary session was also conducted in which other officials took part: on the Soviet side—Vorontsov; Dubinin; Karpov, chief of the Problems of Arms Control and Disarmament Department of the USSR Foreign Ministry; Stepanov, assistant to the USSR foreign minister; Tarasenko, chief of the General Secretariat of the USSR Foreign Ministry; Sukhodrev, deputy chief of the United States of America and Canada Department; and on the U.S. side—Matlock; Nitze and Browne, special advisors to the U.S. President and U.S. secretary of state on the Geneva talks; Ridgway and Holmes, U.S. assistant secretaries of state; Adelman, director of the U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency; and Kampelman, head of the U.S. delegation at the talks on nuclear and space arms in Geneva.

The ministers formed joint groups of experts which were instructed to discuss and complete the technical aspects of problems whch are the subject of the Moscow talks. The talks will be continued.

Eduard Amvrosiyevich Shevardnadze hosted a luncheon in honor of George Shultz and his party. Yazov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR defense minister; Dobrynin, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; Kamentsev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; leaders of a number of USSR ministries and departments; participants in the talks on the Soviet and U.S. sides; and other officials attended the luncheon.

Redman, Gerasimov Briefing

LD221958 Moscow TASS in English 1942 GMT 22 Oct 87

[Text] Moscow October 22 TASS—A TASS diplomatic correspondent reports:

It is, perhaps, for the first time in the history of the Press Centre of the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs that Soviet and foreign journalists who gathered for a briefing witnessed how it was held by two persons at once, spokesmen for the United States and the Soviet Union.

They also noticed that Charles Redman, a State Department official, and Gennadiy Gerasimov, head of the Information Directorate of the Soviet Foreign Ministry, cooperated splendidly and in a gentlemanly manner gave each other an opportunity to take the floor.

But, for sure, the main thing was that their evaluations of the results of the first day of the talks between George Shultz and Eduard Shevardnadze coincided, in the main: Today's meeting was held in a businesslike and constructive atmosphere and good progress was achieved at the talks.

Mr Redman said that Eduard Shevardnadze and George Shultz agreed that today's meeting was held in a businesslike and constructive atmosphere and sufficient progress was achieved at the talks.

"The Soviet side feels optimistic and regards it as the principal aim of today's meeting in Moscow to finalise the work to prepare a treaty to eliminate medium- and shorter-range missiles, to make considerable headway on matters aimed at reducing offensive arms and at maintaining the regime of the ABM Treaty," Gennadiy Gerasimov said, for his part.

Universal attention was attracted to the judgement of George Shultz quoted at the briefing: The Soviet-U.S. summit meeting in Reykjavik, of all meetings in Soviet-American relations, had produced probably the greatest result, and that the Reykjavik summit had given the impetus thanks to which the two sides met in Washington and were conducting talks in Moscow.

Of course, the journalists wanted to learn more details about the essence of the two foreign ministers' talks and of what was discussed in eight working groups. Numerous questions concerned not only disarmament issues, where the possibility of reaching agreement to eliminate medium- and shorter-range missiles was pointed out with particular optimism, but also such vital issues of our times as human rights and regional conflicts.

One can understand the desire of a correspondent from Kuwait to find out the attitude of the U.S. and Soviet spokesmen to today's report on an Iranian missile strike against his country.

The interest in a new Nobel Prize winner in the field of literature, Iosif Brodskiy, is understandable, too.

However, both Charles Redman and Gennadiy Gerasimov showed understandable restraint: The talks are not yet over.

Yet another strenuous work day lies ahead tomorrow, and the central event of it, undoubtedly, will be a meeting between Mikhail Gorbachev and the U.S. secretary of state.

Preview of Shultz-Gorbachev

LD230828 Moscow TASS in English 0822 GMT 23 Oct 87

[Text] Moscow October 23 TASS—A TASS diplomatic correspondent reports:

Since the early morning on Friday, the second day of a USSR-U.S. meeting in Moscow, the telephone lines to the senior officials of the Soviet Foreign Ministry's Information Directorate have been busy, indicating a tremendous interest in this highly important event, with everyone eager to hear the latest news.

But we have still been able to put a call through to Boris Pyadyshev, first deputy chief of the directorate.

"The central event on the second day of the talks will, of course, be a meeting between Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz," he said.

"During this meeting they will discuss issues in substance, perspective and a broad context. They will first of all talk about concluding work on an agreement to scrap intermediate-range and shorter-range missiles.

"Besides, attention will definitely be paid to thie issues of reducing offensive arms and preserving the regime of the ABM Treaty. The meeting will also discuss the range of matters concerning the relationship between the two major powers, the Soviet Union and the United States," Pyadyshev said.

The phone at the press center of the U.S. delegation, which is in room 312 at Moscow's Ukraine Hotel, was answered by Richard Gilbert, press attache of the American Embassy. He said the Soviet foreign minister and the U.S. secretary of state today had resumed their talks at 9.30 and that the expert groups had continued their work at the same time. They at the U.S. press center are waiting for the results of the historic meeting with impatience as well.

After the Kremlin meeting George Shultz will continue his talks with Eduard Shevardnadze. The expert groups will go back to work, too. Later the U.S. secretary of state

will give a news conference, to be followed by a meeting with the press by the Soviet foreign minister, and Soviet and foreign correspondents in Moscow are preparing to cover the two events.

Shultz and accompanying officials plan to fly out of Moscow tonight, but the city is still enveloped in a dense fog and it cannot be ruled out that they will again have to use the rail service.

An extended stay in Moscow, it is believed, is also possible due to the large amount of issues to be discussed.

One would certainly like to hope that the difficulties of the talks will prove just as negotiable as those posed by the unusual weather in Moscow.

Gorbachev, Shultz Meeting

LD231036 Moscow World Service in English 1000 GMT 23 Oct 87

[Text] A meeting between General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev and George Shultz continues here in Moscow. According to a Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman, the meeting deals with the important issues of international relations. The priority topic is completion of work on the drafting of an agreement abolishing medium- and shorter- range missiles. Besides that, said the Foreign Ministry spokesman, attention will be given to issues of reducing offensive armaments and maintaining the mode of the ABM Treaty, that is on antiballistic missiles. The discussion will also cover a range of the main issues of the relations between the two biggest powers, the USSR and the United States.

This morning there was another round of talks between Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze, and U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz. Talks will continue after George Shultz ends his meeting with Mikhail Gorbachev. In the afternoon, George Shultz and Eduard Shevardnadze will each hold news conferences.

Gorbachev Trip 'Possible'

LD231040 Moscow TASS in English 1039 GMT 23 Oct 87

[Text] Moscow October 23 TASS—A TASS diplomatic correspondent writes:

At the beginning of a meeting in the Kremlin today between General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev and U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, a group of journalists had an opportunity for a brief exchange with its participants.

Mikhail Gorbachev said he regarded his trip to the United States for a summit meeting with President of the United States Ronald Reagan possible. He said, however, that it would, most probably, be a short visit.

Reagan Rules Out Concessions on SDI

LD230923 Moscow TASS in english 0907 GMT 23 Oct 87

[Text] Washington October 23 TASS—President Reagan reaffirmed that he would not make any concessions regarding the "Strategic Defence Initiative" commonly called "Star Wars". It is known to be the key impediment to a drastic reduction in strategic offensive armaments.

Reagan told a press conference in Washington Thursday that he refused even to make this issue the topic of discussion at the talks. "If you put it on the table as a bargaining chip, then it becomes a bargaining chip. And we have said that this is a real defence against nuclear weapons", Reagan stressed.

The U.S. President said furthermore that "a nuclear war can never be won and must never be fought". And the best way to ever bring that about is the "Strategic Defence Initiative" when work on it is crowned with success.

U.S. Circles 'Preparing To Sabotage' Accords

LD230158 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1655 GMT 22 Oct 87

[Excerpts] Moscow, 22 Oct (TASS)—TASS Observer Leonid Ponomarev writes:

From 24 to 31 October, actions for disarmament will be held on the planet.

At present the world is on the threshold of an extremely important Soviet-U.S. step: the embodiment in an international document of an accord on the elimination of medium-range and operational-tactical missiles. There is hope that, following the reduction of almost 2,000 nuclear warheads, the USSR and the United States will be able to get down to talks on a 50% reduction in their strategic armed forces in conditions of strict observance of the ABM Treaty.

Not everything, however, is as clear as it might seem at first glance. There are fairly influential forces in Washington that are preparing to sabotage the accords on medium-range and operational-tactical missiles. Just as before, Washington is devoted to the idea of continuing nuclear tests for the purpose of improving nuclear weapons, even in the 21st century. The White House is insisting on continuing the projects aimed at the militarization of space with SDI programs.

Finally, the present administration has prepared the basis for starting the production of binary chemical charges.

All these and other unsolved problems in the sphere of curbing the arms race require even greater efforts on the part of all those who are striving to enter the third millenium without weapons.

Weinberger Urges NATO Arms Buildup

LD231059 Moscow TASS in English 1046 GMT 23 Oct 87

[Text] Washington October 23 TASS—U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger has said NATO should modernize its battlefield nuclear arms if a U.S.-Soviet agreement is signed to scrap intermediate-range and shorter-range missiles.

Speaking Thursday at the American Institute for Contemporary German Studies at the John Hopkins University here, he said the NATO members must also beef up their conventional forces, observing that that "will not be inexpensive".

"We also must recognize that as heartening as our prospective INF (Intermediate-Range Nuclear Force) agreement is, it will not in any way reduce NATO's defense burdens," the Pentagon chief said, adding that the bloc would have to "maintain a varied spectrum of nuclear capabilities".

He said, in particular, that NATO must also "increase the effective range of its dual-capable aircraft, while improving their ability to penetrate Warsaw Pact air defenses".

Weinberger then dwelt on Pershing-2 nuclear missiles and ground-launched cruises which would have to be dismantled under a Soviet-U.S. agreement.

He said, in particular, that "in the absence of Pershing-2s and ground-launched cruise missiles, this is essential to provide the alliance with needed in-theater, long-range (nuclear) capabilities".

Weinberger's remarks demonstrated that certain quarters in the United States are out to reduce to nought efforts to reduce nuclear weapons in Europe and are keen to make up for the elimination of intermediate-range and shorter-range missiles with a buildup in tactical nuclear weapons.

Wall Street 'Crash' Linked to Arms Spending

LD221051 Moscow in English to North America 0001 GMT 22 Oct 87

[Vladyslav Kozyakov commentary]

[Excerpts] [Announcer] Let's take a look at the situation on the Western stock markets. After the stock markets in New York, London and Tokyo opened on Wednesday there were reports of a slight improvement of the situation following Monday's crash in the West. However, lesser known stocks remained under heavy selling pressure. Investors were deeply shaken by Monday's collapse in stock prices, a decline bigger in percentage terms than on any day preceding the great depression. [passage omitted] There has been a fall in confidence in the economy, and that could lead to a fall in production, dismissals and higher unemployment. Doubts about the American economy's ability to cope with its problems have spread to West European countries. Leading analysts believe that the violent sell-off on world stock markets has become the root cause of global economic instability. [passage omitted]

And now here is a short commentary on the situation by Radio Moscow commentator Vladyslav Kozyakov.

Monday's reports from Wall Street were like a thunder clap, which made many look around to see where the storm was coming from. The White House, for the first time in the 6 and 1/2 years that the current administration has been in office, has had to admit that urgent measures are required to lessen the budget deficit. President Reagan announced that he had signed an order on Tuesday implementing automatic spending cuts under a deficit resolution law. Besides he had instructed his aides to negotiate with Congress on ways of curbing the federal budget deficit.

However, having recognized the urgent need to put an end to the growth of budget deficit, one must also admit that federal debt and budget deficit have their roots in an unprecedented growth in the spending on nuclear, space and other arms. In the final count, Monday's panic on Wall Street is the result of exorbitant military spending, which has proved beyond economic capability. It is hardly a coincidence that the New York Stock Exchange crisis occurred at a time when American destroyers fired 1,000 shells on Iranian oil platforms in the Gulf, heralding another increase in the Pentagon's budget.

Oakley Declines Comment on Gulf War Report

LD221310 Moscow TASS in English 1252 GMT 22 Oct 87

[Text] Washington October 22 TASS—U.S. State Department Spokeswoman Phyllis Oakley at the latest briefing in the U.S. foreign policy department declined any comment on "War in the Persian Gulf" report compiled by members of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations.

This refusal is easy to explain by the contents of the report. One of its main conclusions is that it is the U.S. Administration that is largely to blame for the continuation of the Iran-Iraq war and the explosive situation in the Persian Gulf. It is the U.S. Administration that supplied armaments to Iran. The shipping in the Gulf is now less secure than it was before the United States started the naval buildup. Now that some 100 naval ships of the West have accumulated in the area, the risk of miscalculation and the further escalation of tension is high. There exists a serious danger of the United States involvement in the war. The authors of the report see one of the main reasons that prompted the taking of Kuwaiti tankers under the U.S. flag in the striving to restore confidence in the United States after the revelation of the Iran-Contra affair.

As to a report of the Select Committees of the U.S. Congress on the results of the Irangate investigation, chairman of the Select Committee of the House of Representatives, Congressman Lee Hamilton said that it will be published early in November. The report was expected to be completed by late October. It turned out that "more time" will be needed to declassify the documents included in it. The question what information should be declassified and what information should be removed from the report is to be decided by the White House officials. Attempts have already been taken to make its contents milder and less critical with regard to the President and the Administration as a whole. Hamilton himself admitted this in an indirect form when he said that the draft report had been thoroughly edited and that the part of the report containing the summary of the conclusions of the investigation was re-written 35 times.

'Provocative Anti-Iranian Campaign' Cited

LD222018 Moscow TASS in English 1986 GMT 22 Oct 87

[Text] New York October 22 TASS—Along with armed actions in the Persian Gulf, Washington is heightening a provocative anti-Iranian campaign in the United States itself. The newspaper *Newsday* learned today that the Federal Bureau of Investigation had stepped up the shadowing of people of the Iranian extraction as if fearing retaliatory actions from Iranian terrorists in the United States. Used for the purpose is electronic espionage equipment, every step of Iranian citizens is directly controlled by FBI agents. The Federal Bureau of Investigation increased the number of its agents engaged in such activities and pooled the efforts of departments in combatting domestic and international terrorism. The number of FBI agents bound to keep an eye over people of the Iranian extraction, is kept secret.

Reagan Says U.S. To Respond Against Iran

LD230732 Moscow TASS in English 0715 GMT 23 Oct 87

[Text] Washington October 23 TASS—U.S. President Ronald Reagan accused Iran of "provocative actions" against the United States and said that the U.S. was "going to respond".

Addressing a White House press conference Thursday, Reagan stressed that U.S. Navy ships would continue operations to escort U.S.-flagged Kuwaiti tankers in the Persian Gulf area. He made one more attempt to justify the actions by the U.S. Armed Forces in the Gulf by references to the need to "keep international waters open to commerce and trade".

The President refused to say when his administration planned to withdraw its warships from the Persian Gulf where their number has already topped 30. "We've had naval forces there since 1949", Reagan said. "We're not there to start a war", the President contended.

"I don't think there is anything to panic about", Reagan said in view of the panic that gripped the stock markets of capitalist countries following the U.S. Navy attack on Iranian oil rigs.

Wick's Remarks on Glasnost Examined

LD220910 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1545 GMT 21 Oct 87

[From "The World Today" program presented by Igor Kudrin]

[Excerpts] The reaction in the West to our policy of glasnost is by no means unanimous. Yes, this policy arouses great interest. There is also some skepticism: How far, as it were, will this policy go and in what way will it affect international relations? Even today some circles are afraid of our glasnost, openness, and honesty. This is understandable. Western propaganda aimed particularly against the USSR and socialist countries is losing ground. Indeed, the truth of the Soviet policy geared toward strengthening peace, eliminating nuclear weapons, curbing the arms race, and the peaceful settlement of regional conflicts is finding more and more followers in the West.

Its persuasiveness and its influence on the public, it seems, is feared by people such as Charles Wick, director of the U.S. Information Agency. Speaking at an economists' club in Detroit, he lamented the danger of the new Soviet openness. [passage omitted] Director Wick's anxieties are obviously contrived. The governments of the West will hardly begin to give way to the Soviet Union in anything; it is even less possible that they will begin to act in its interests. Who should know better than we what difficult, stubborn and argumentative partners the Western governments, especially the U.S. Administration, are. So, there is no point in Charles Wick being afraid for his own kind. Through this he just betrays his fear that the Soviet Union—I quote now— has decided to complete with the United States in the global market of ideas. [passage omitted]

What are the measures recommended by Western propagandists in response to the policy of peace and disarmament? — distortions of facts and reiterations of old and obsolete myths and legends about the Soviet military threat. In any Western country, on any day, you will be able to find a magazine or a newspaper, sometimes a very influential one, stuffed with anti-Soviet inventions. The more that events of global importance draw near — for example, a Soviet-U.S. agreement on two classes of missiles — the more that journalists try to excel themselves. [passage omitted] The media's lamentations about defenseless Europe, the fears of Soviet might, and the cunning and uncompromising Russians are usually followed by the same sort of recipes: The USSR is not to be trusted, nuclear weapons should be kept, more weapons should be obtained, and the military solidarity of the West should be strengthened.

Shultz 'Indoctrinating' Congress on Contras

PM221419 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Oct 87 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Blocking The Agreement"]

[Text] Washington, 14 Oct—The U.S. Administration, obsessed with the idea of overthrowing the Sandinist government in Nicaragua by means of contra gangs, intends to torpedo the agreement reached in August in Guatemala by the presidents of five Central American countries on achieving a political settlement in the region. This is indicated by a speech by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz in Congress which was another link in the White House campaign to indoctrinate legislators in favor of further aid for the Contras.

Having said that the U.S. strategy in Central America is to "support freedom and democracy," the secretary of state pointed out that "continuing aid to the freedom-fighters (as Washington calls the Nicaraguan contras—TASS note) is the key to democratization and the full implementation of the Guatemala agreement." Shultz even claimed that "the actual fact that we were aiding the resistance (in Nicaragua—TASS note) was the factor that made the reaching of an agreement possible." At the same time, the secretary of state made it plain that Washington intends to continue backing the Nicaraguan contras irrespective of progress in implementing the agreement reached in Guatemala.

Petrovskiy Meets With U.S. Officials

LD231232 Moscow TASS in English 1244 GMT 23 Oct 87

[Text] Washington, October 23 TASS—Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister V.F. Petrovskiy, who made a stop-over in Washington, met with U.S. Undersecretary Michael Armacost.

He also met with chairmen of Senate and House Committees on Foreign Affairs, Claiborne Pell and Dante Fascell.

Tarazevich Meets U.S. Peace Delegation

LD221514 Moscow TASS in English 1326 GMT 22 Oct 87

[Text] Moscow October 22 TASS—Georgiy Tarazevich, vice-president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, has met today with a delegation of the U.S. anti-war organization Peace Links, who are currently staying in Moscow at the invitation of the Soviet Women's Committee.

The members of the U.S. delegation showed much interest in the questions in connection with the restructuring drive in all areas of the Soviet society's life, further developing and deepening democratisation and public openness.

The mutual wish was expressed to strengthen contacts between Soviet and American public which would contribute towards the cooperation between the two countries, the joint elaboration of constructive approaches to ensuring universal peace and disarmament. The participants in the meeting declared for a practical implementation of the Soviet-American agreements for building up East-West confidence.

Zoya Pukhova, chairman of the Soviet Women's Committee, took part in the meeting.

Astronaut Views U.S.-USSR Mars Mission

PM221025 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 8 Oct 87 Morning Edition p 1

[TASS report: "United States: Brian O'Leary on Flight to Mars"]

[Text] Washington, 7 Oct—*"Mars, 1999. Review of U.S.-Soviet Manned Flight"*—this is the title of the book which has just been published by Brian O'Leary, crew member of the U.S. *Apollo* spaceship.

The date — 1999 — is not included in the title by accident: A joint Soviet-U.S. expedition to the "red planet," O'Leary considers, could be undertaken precisely at that time. He sees it like this: Two ships— a U.S. and Soviet one—take off from earth and move in parallel in the direction of Mars. Each is capable of helping the other when necessary and, in addition to this, the crews would be able to visit each other during the 22-month journey. After landing on Phobos, the satellite of Mars, the crews will conduct various research and experiments, and a month later a Soviet cosmonaut and a U.S. astronaut will take up their positions in the landing module and land on Mars...

"I am hoping that such a flight will take place," B. O'Leary said when he signed the author's copy of his book. The inscription speaks for itself: "Let us share the joy and delight of our common future in space."

Gen Ivanovskiy Answers U.S. Army Secretary

PM221331 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 21 Oct 87 First Edition p 3

[Article by Army General Ye. Ivanovskiy, commander in chief of the Ground Forces and USSR deputy defense minister: "Hegemonism on the March"]

[Text] As part of my job I familiarized myself with an article in the Washington-published military journal *Army*, which set out the ideas and views of U.S. Secretary of the Army J. Marsh with regard to the tasks of ground forces stemming from the main provisions of U.S. military doctrine. Of course, J. Marsh's ideas could not fail to attract my attention. After all, as U.S. secretary of the Army, he bears responsibility for all U.S. ground forces—their staffing, training, and equipping in

the interests of their use in all kinds of combat operations against the Soviet Union, which J. Marsh calls nothing less than the "main adversary."

I consider it necessary to express certain ideas about the secretary's views. I know that J. Marsh is no political innocent. He served four terms (1963 through 1971) as a member of the House of Representatives. He then became assistant U.S. defense secretary and national security adviser to U.S. Vice President G. Ford. In 1981, with the advent to power of the Republican administration headed by R. Reagan, he was appointed secretary of the Army. All this attests to his experience of U.S. state and military affairs. It was this that clearly conditioned his participation in drawing up and substantiating U.S. national security strategy. This was set forth in its entirety in a presidential message submitted for congressional examination this January. Consequently, when J. Marsh discusses U.S. military policy he undoubtedly knows what he is talking about.

So what is he militating for, what are his fundamental ideas? I will say straightaway that there is nothing fundamentally new in these ideas. But to a certain extent Marsh details the positions on the most important problems of military policy, and he does so from a militarist and aggressive viewpoint.

Indeed, J. Marsh deemed it necessary to stress yet again that the basis of U.S. military doctrine "continues to be nuclear deterrence on a strategic scale." He states bluntly that "deterrence and the position of strength policy are aimed against any enemies of the United States," primarily the Soviet Union. He places at the basis of this the "deterring of an enemy with the threat of assured destruction." Marsh claims that U.S. military doctrine envisages the adoption of resolute measures to oust the Soviet Union from any part of the globe. I would like to ask the secretary how he plans to put this objective into practice.

If these provisions had been expressed during the height of the "cold war," I would not have been very surprised. Back then official U.S. military strategy was actually called the "strategy of massive retaliation." It envisaged the waging of an all-out global nuclear war against the USSR and the other socialist countries. The Pentagon saw the war as involving the unilateral use of strategic nuclear weapons with impunity by the United States. But those days are long gone. Under the conditions of military-strategic parity between the USSR and the United States, and between the Warsaw Pact Organization and the NATO bloc, the United States cannot count on going unpunished. The armed forces of the Soviet Union and the other allied states, as is well known, are maintained at at level of combat readiness sufficient to prevent them being taken by surprise. But if they are actually attacked, they will crushingly rebuff the aggressor.

But that is not the whole story. In the modern world new political thinking is making itself felt more and more. Even President Reagan himself was forced to agree that there can be no winners in a nuclear war and that is why one must not be waged. The Soviet Union's principled peace-loving policy and its struggle for the creation of a comprehensive international security system are generating an increasing response in the world. In the eyes of the peoples Geneva and Reykjavik have already gone down as landmarks along the road toward removing the sword of Damocles hanging over mankind in the shape of a nuclear catastrophe. An agreement, the first ever, between the USSR and the United States to eliminate two classes of nuclear weapons—medium-range and operational-tactical missiles—has already been reached in principle. There is a prospect of an accord on 50% reductions in strategic offensive weapons conditional on strict observance of the ABM Treaty. Now, against this background, the secretary militates not only for the continuation but the further intensification of Washington's expansionist, neoglobalist policy. There is no other way to explain his calls for a further intensification of the NATO bloc's militarist preparations in Europe with a view to "inflicting a resounding defeat on Warsaw Pact forces in the event of the outbreak of large-scale hostilities," ensuring reliable defense of "vitally important U.S. interests" in any part of the world, and undermining the Soviet Union's positions and influence on an international scale. All this is dressed up as "deterring an aggressor."

The U.S. ruling circles' imperial ambitions are clearly seen in these directives. In accordance with their neoglobalist doctrine J. Marsh resorts to overt threats against revolutionary and national liberation movements and defines the specific forces and means earmarked for their suppression. At the same time he advocates providing comprehensive assistance to "allies and regimes that are friendly to the United States in Asia, Latin America, and Africa." Yet we are well aware that these friends include the RSA racists, the Afghan dushmans, and the Nicaraguan contras, whose hands are red with innocent blood.

What can be said on this score? In essence the positions defended by J. Marsh do not serve the interests of the defense of America—which, incidentally, is threatened by no one—but the interests of its most aggressive, expansionist circles and the military-industrial complex.

At a time when the senselessness and unacceptability of nuclear war are becoming more obvious, J. Marsh advances the thesis that "ground forces are one of the key components in the deterrence strategy." In so doing he justifies the creation in various parts of the world of forward-based groupings with considerable combat might made up of U.S. ground forces formations and units along with reinforcement reserves.

It is not hard to understand the gist of these ideas. It is to substantiate the presence and buildup of the powerful U.S. Armed Forces in various parts of the world—

primarily Europe, where they directly confront the Warsaw Pact Joint Armed Forces. At a time when it is planned to scrap Soviet and U.S. medium-range and operational-tactical missiles the ground forces' combat might and offensive capabilities are to be enhanced in order to "compensate for losses." Yet it is well known that this "compensation" is to be carried out first and foremost by siting additional U.S. FB-111 bombers and F-111, F-15, and F-16 fighter-bombers in Europe and retargeting Poseidon and Trident SLBM's and strategic B-52 bombers equipped with cruise missiles for operations according to NATO plans.

In other words, the United States is prepared to sign a "global double-zero" agreement with one hand while working out plans to build up nuclear and other weapons aimed against the Warsaw Pact with the other.

I note once again that J. Marsh is still in thrall to old militarist thinking. Objectively his goals boiled down to throwing a wrench in the works of Soviet-U.S. relations and the nuclear arms reduction process. It should be time to realize that high levels of armed forces and arms do not make the world any safer. Not for nothing did the document "On the White House States' Military Doctrine" stress absolutely forcefully that under present conditions the use of military means to solve any dispute is impermissible. "The Warsaw Pact states," the document notes, "will never under any circumstances initiate hostilities against any state or alliance of states whatever if they themselves are not the target of an armed attack."

Unlike Mr Marsh and those of his ilk, we do not regard any state or people as our enemy. We make no territorial claims against anyone. We threaten nobody and are prepared to base our relations with all states without exception on the foundation of reciprocal consideration for the interests of security and peaceful coexistence.

On reading all this, J. Marsh might ask me: "What? Isn't the Soviet Union strengthening its defense capability? Aren't Soviet military leaders striving to improve the combat readiness of armed forces formations and units, including the Ground Forces?" I would reply: Yes it is, yes we are. We have been forced to maintain the composition and standard of our Armed Forces at a level which would allow them to repulse any outside attack.

It is the firm opinion of all Soviet people, including the leaders of the USSR Armed Forces, that the security of all depends on the security of each, and it is safeguarded not by strengthening offensive potential but by maintaining the equilibrium of armed forces at a lower and lower level. As for the ideas of hegemonism and the unrestrained buildup in the U.S. Armed Forces' combat capability defended by the U.S. secretary of the Army, were they to be implemented they would be merely another obstacle in the way of strengthening international security, including the security of the United States itself.

U.S. Researching Biological Warfare

LD221538 Moscow TASS in English 1441 GMT 22 Oct 87

[Text] New York October 22 TASS—Research is under way at Pentagon's request at a biochemical laboratory under Brigham Young University in the city of Provo, Utah, to obtain a vaccine against anthrax, the journal *Progressive* said. The U.S. Defence Department hopes also to obtain a highly resistant virus of the disease as a biological warfare weapon. The vaccine will be used for vaccinating American servicemen before the use of the virus against enemy troops. Research aimed at creating most potent deathly microorganisms is under way at least in 21 states of the country, the *Progressive* notes.

The funds spent on building up bacteriological warfare arsenals make the most fast growing and dangerous item of expenditure of the U.S. military budget, the journal said.

Further on Parliamentarians' Canada Visit

LD221516 Moscow TASS in English 1436 GMT 22 Oct 87

[Text] Ottawa October 22 TASS—The most topical problems of the present as well some issues of Soviet-Canadian bilateral relations were discussed during the meeting here on Wednesday between Prime Minister Martin Brian Mulroney of Canada and a delegation of the USSR Supreme Soviet led by Yefrem Sokolov, member of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, first secretary of the Communist Party of Belorussia Central Committee. The Canadian premier recalled with warmth his meeting with General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev and noted that the initiatives put forward by the Soviet leadership are a source of much interest and deserve the most careful study.

On the same day the delegation met with the speakers of the House of Commons and Senate. Both sides stressed mutual interest in strengthening interparliamentary ties. In the course of the meeting the idea was put forward of putting on a regular basis the exchanges between the two legislative bodies of the two countries.

A meeting was held with Canada's Minister of Agriculture John Wise, in the course of which statements were made for a progressive development of Soviet-Canadian ties in the field of agriculture. The meeting with Frank Oberle, minister of state for science and technology, covered questions pertaining to scientific-technical cooperation of the two countries including in the exploration and peaceful uses of outer space. The Soviet MP's visited the Canadian corporation for the development of exports. The state and perspectives of Soviet-Canadian trade and economic relations were discussed, including relations in the creation of joint plants and firms in the Soviet Union.

The delegation of the USSR Supreme Soviet arrived in Calgary on Wednesday.

China

Wu Xueqian To Attend Moscow GOSR

OW222138 Moscow International Service in Mandarin 1500 GMT 22 Oct 87

[Text] A spokesman of the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs announced in Beijing: China will dispatch a delegation to the Soviet Union to take part in the activities celebrating the 70th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution [GOSR] in Moscow on 7 November. The delegation will be led by Wu Xueqian, member of the CPC Central Committee and president of the Chinese-Soviet Friendship Association.

Rogachev Receives PRC UN Group Head

PM221535 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 22 Oct 87 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS report under the general heading "Official Reports"]

[Text] I.A. Rogachev, USSR deputy foreign minister, has received a delegation from the PRC UN cooperation association headed by association chairman Bi Jilong.

Efforts To Boost Contacts With Taiwan

PM221555 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 11 Oct 87 Morning Edition p 5

[Yu. Savenkov dispatch under the rubric "Weekend Reports From Our Correspondents": "The Time of the Full Moon"]

[Excerpts] Beijing—The full moon was shedding its pale yellow light on chrysanthemum-scented Tiananmen Square. A group of youths, aligning their bikes in a silvery circle, sat huddled together savoring the "youeb-ing"—round spicy "moon cakes" with a sweet filling.

These treats are the main symbol of the "Mid-fall" national holiday, which is marked on the 15th day of the 8th moon in the traditional Chinese calendar. This year it fell on 7 October. [passage omitted]

The Chinese hold symbols in special esteem. They like to be photographed against the backdrop of famous sights. Among the flower arrangements on the square there is a model of the Zimeitan Park in Taiwan. That evening many people took photographs for the family album against the backdrop of this flower composition. The problem of contacts between inhabitants of mainland China and Taiwan has been actively discussed in the newspapers of late. "The CPC proposal to establish postal and trade links and air and sea communications between the mainland and the island and to implement sports, cultural, and scientific exchanges is meeting with increasing support in the world," XINHUA wrote. So far, the Taiwanese authorities have responded to these iniatives with the "policy of the triple no": No contacts, no talks, no compromise.

However, the inhabitants of Taiwan are more and more persistently seeking contact with the mainland via various channels. Two journalists from Taipei have been here recently. And now another Taiwanese reporter is visiting Beijing. The purpose of his visit is noteworthy—the search for roots. According to a XINHUA report from Hong Kong, the Guomindang leadership has recently decided in principle to permit limited trips by the inhabitants of Taiwan to the mainland to visit relatives. However, a definitive official decision by the Taiwanese authorities is still outstanding.

Taiwanese living in Beijing who gathered in Sun Yatsen Park next to Tiananmen Square to celebrate the "Mid-fall" holiday sent a letter to their compatriots across the strait. In it they express the hope that the day will come soon when they will no longer "look at the moon with sadness on this day of family reunion."

Bureaucracy Hampers Border Trade

PM221619 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 13 Oct 87 p 3

[TASS correspondent Ye. Verlin article commissioned by SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA: "Straightening Out Trade"]

[Text] Vladivostok-Khabarovsk-Blagoveshchensk-Moscow—The railroad station at Grodekovo, the only crossing point for foreign trade shipments along the Far East sector of the Soviet-Chinese border, can recall neither visits by ministry leaders nor "landings" by representatives of the central press. Actually, the settlement of Pogranichnyy, adjacent to the station, cannot be described as being the center of attention, either.

"Well, if the Maritime Kray is known as the backwaters of the country, you can say that we are the back of beyond," Pogranichnyy Rayispolkom Chairman A. Rozhenko said, not mincing his words. "Yet the volume of freight handled at our station has almost trebled in the last few years, and it is planned to double again and reach 2 million tonnes by the end of the 5-year plan period."

These are plan figures. But the underlying trend in the development of Soviet-Chinese state and cross-border trade is to steadily outpace the set targets. Proposals to open up as soon as possible an additional channel of bilateral ties—direct trade between border population centers—are being literally pushed through by neighbors from Suifenhe, the nearest Chinese town.

Are the settlement of Pogranichnyy and the railroad station at Grodekovo prepared to open the door wider?

"If you are talking about a modern base which would satisfy the demands of the development of state and cross-border trade, it does not exist here at present," in A. Rozhenko's opinion. "First, the car loading capacity available at the station cannot cope with the growing volume of freight turnover. Conditions for normal work are still lacking, almost everything has to be done by hand. Second, the USSR Ministry of Railways has constructed virtually no housing or other social, cultural, and consumer service projects here in the last 20 years."

We observed corn being unloaded from a Chinese car. A pneumatic loader was at work: Something like a huge vacuum cleaner, the only difference being that once it sucked up the grain it did not keep it inside but passed it along a tube into a dumper truck parked on the highway that runs parallel to the tracks. Efficient equipment? Yes. The only point is that it was made not in our country but in the FRG and Japan. And the Ministry of Railways has failed to provide spare parts and maintenance services for the 10 or so machines that were bought. The result is frequent breakdowns and machine downtime.

The loading area at the station is surfaced with gravel. Grain, especially soybeans, gets mixed with it, sprouts, and rots, and a malodorous pool forms there whenever it rains. One would have thought that, following the ban on continuing work in these conditions issued by the sanitary and epidemiology station, the area should have been asphalted immediately, but this has not been done by the Ussuri Section of the Far Eastern Railroad.

"What do you expect when there is nowhere to even wash yourself in hot weather," loading operators working at the station said. "And yet the cars are dusty and dirty, temperatures can reach 60 degrees. We are working in harmful conditions, the noise of the pneumatic loaders is in excess of 100 decibels, but we have been issued with neither hearing protectors nor special respirators. And how about the additional leave entitlement or the milk allowance for harmful work? A commission came from Ussuriysk, made promises, but still nothing...."

"And how about the housing situation?"

"You make do as best as you can," diesel operator S. Svirko said. "Someone came from the 'west,' for example, stayed awhile with his parents, did some work with us, ran out of patience, and left. For 10 years now we've been told that the railroad administration will start building an apartment block here."

People leave, making their way "to the west," to the country's European regions. And this is happening when there is a 20-percent shortage of manpower here....

So far the Soviet and Chinese sides have not reached specific agreement on including the settlement of Pogranichnyy and the town of Suifenhe among border centers twinned for the purpose of direct trade. But preparatory work on it is already under way. The only point is that, apparently, it is not we who are setting the tone in this work.

Brand new buildings of a trade house, customs house, and cross-border meetings house have appeared in Suifenhe during the last year. Furthermore, they have already set up a firm and 10 of its staffers are eagerly awaiting the inauguration of direct trade with our settlement.

Just one more remark by people who have been in Suifenhe: The station there is not only faster in handling freight, but the whole complex looks cleaner and tidier than ours.

It was in Vladivostok that I got an answer to the question of when and how the settlement of Pogranichnyy will start trading directly with Suifenhe. It appears that the decision will be made at government level. But where will the rayon production association obtain its funds and who will actually engage in cross-border trade?

This problem was explained to me in many offices. It became clear why I failed to detect any particular enthusiasm among people in Pogranichnyy about the possibility of opening direct trade turnover with the Chinese neighbors in the not too distant future. Why worry about rayon-level links, when even the Potrebsoyuz at kray level conducts cross-border trade not directly but through the intermediary of the "Dalintorg" Foreign Trade Association, having moreover to coordinate all deliveries with central and local departments.

"I've been working at the local cooperative for more than 30 years," I was told by M. Litvinenko, chairman of the Maritime Kray Potrebsoyuz. "I well remember the times when we traded with China directly. We bought and sold whatever we needed. Were it not for intermediaries, we could right away double or treble our trade with China (and it is very advantageous for us)."

The Maritime Kray Potrebsoyuz is constantly arguing with "Dalintorg": What the latter markets is far from everything that is offered. It so happens that cooperative members attend talks with Chinese representatives, seem to agree on something with them, and afterwards everything is decided above their heads.

"Of course, we realize that 'Dalintorg' has its own policy and its own reasoning on prices. But believe me, if trade were to be handed over to us, neither we nor the state would lose from it." Statements along these lines were made to me in conversations with leaders of cooperative organizations in Amur Oblast and in Maritime and Khabarovsk Krays. All of them have long lists of complaints about "Dalintorg" and about the entire mechanism of cross-border trade in general—trade which, in their opinion, ought to be conducted by people living in the border oblasts and in pursuit of their interests.

A considerable proportion of the volume of our cross-border exports is made up of what is delivered abroad along the lines of "major" trade—timber, fertilizers, construction materials, and machine building output. This is why, according to cooperative members' complaints, they often fail to sell through "Dalintorg" goods of "local origin" like glass, soda, some types of fresh frozen fish, filings, slabs, and household articles.

Here is another example, cited by trade workers in Blagoveshchensk. Guests from the Chinese city of Heihe, visiting on this side of the Amur River, saw thick woolen cloth—plenty of it—in the local department store, and there were no people waiting in line. They wanted to know whether the stocks were large. It appears that our stores are swimming in thick woolen cloth, while this material is in short supply and very expensive in China. It would seem that there could not have been a better time to negotiate a trade deal. But alas, until quite recently no one in Blagoveshchensk had the slightest idea of how it could be done....

A question to "Dalintorg" General Director V. Lozov:

"Could it be arranged so that you deal with trade in major commodities while the hands of local cooperative members and department stores are 'untied' and they are authorized to exchange with the Chinese side whatever they may have available, including above-plan output from local enterprises?"

"Why not, we have nothing against it. On the contrary, we are pushing in this direction. This was indeed discussed at the last talks in Khabarovsk between representatives of our krays and oblasts and a trade delegation from Heilongjiang Province. Let trade in local goods be done outside the framework of our association."

And so, "Dalintorg" would seem to be in favor of "straightening out" cross-border trade. So what is holding things up?

First, there is no experience and there are no experts, my interlocutors in Khabarovsk and Vladivostok complained. Second, while neighboring provinces in China have already been through several stages of economic reform and have acquired sufficiently broad powers to engage in foreign trade, people in the Far East still have to refer everything to Moscow and to send proposals to central departments, which, alas, take a painfully long time to discuss and settle matters.

It is difficult to say how many of the "ukases" still in force apply the brakes on the development of cross-border trade with China. After all, the fivefold increase achieved since 1983 does not satisfy people in the Far East, who obtain only a few rubles' worth of Chinese goods per capita each year.

There are many questions. It is no simple matter to seek answers to them. There is, however, no doubt that this quest must be conducted along the avenues of general restructuring of the economic mechanism, which means granting more independence to local organs of power, economic managers, and trade workers in choosing the ways and methods to develop cross-border cooperation. The center can and must assist this process by means of energetic measures to expand the Far East's export potential and provide skilled specialists for the cross-border link of foreign trade.

XINHUA on CPC Precongress Discussions

LD221401 Moscow TASS in English 1311 GMT 22 Oct 87

[Text] Beijing October 22 TASS—By TASS correspondent Grigoriy Arslanov:

Issues put on the agenda of the forthcoming 13th Congress of the Communist Party of China are being broadly and lively discussed by members of the Beijing organization of the CPC and all residents of the Chinese capital.

Views of rank-and-file party members and non-party people will be submitted to the congress through delegates representing the capital's CPC organization.

XINHUA news agency reported that delegates to the congress from the Beijing organization, nominated by more than 800,000 party members, meet on these days with representatives of the city's public to hear their wishes and suggestions that, in their opinion, should be taken into account by the congress.

A number of delegates, interviewed by XINHUA, expressed confidence in the success of the forthcoming forum of Chinese communists. They note that main provisions of the report to be made by the acting general secretary of the CPC Central Committee, Zhao Ziyang, which was discussed at meetings of Beijing's major party ogranizations, coincided with the opinion of most CPC members.

The heads of Beijing enterprises and primary party organizations express the opinion that the provision saying that China is at the initial stage of socialism will facilitate success of the reforms.

They stress the need for theoretical substantiation of the changes currently under way in the country. Many CPC veterans, in speaking about the need for fresh blood in the party's leading bodies in order to invigorate its activity on the whole, note the great importance of preserving in these bodies veteran leaders who enjoy respect in the party and in the country, the agency said.

Northeast Asia

Japanese Fishermen To Be Released

LD221332 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1230 GMT 22 Oct 87

[Text] Moscow, 22 Oct (TASS)—Today the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs informed the Japanese Embassy in the USSR that the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, guided by the interests of the development of Soviet-Japanese relations and in connection with the 70th Great October Socialist Revolution anniversary, has adopted a decree "on an amnesty for Japanese fishermen convicted of violating the state borders of the USSR and illegal sea fishing in Soviet territorial waters, or who are under investigation accused of the same crimes."

At the same time the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs once again drew the attention of the Japanese side to the intolerable nature of the violation of USSR borders by Japanese fishermen for the purposes of conducting illegal sea fishing in Soviet territorial waters. Alongisde this it was stressed that the Soviet side is expecting that this humane and friendly act will be properly appreciated in Japan and that the Japanese side will take appropriate effective measures to prevent such violations in the future.

In accordance with the decree five Japanese fishermen, three of whom are serving sentences and two of whom are under investigation, will be released and handed over to representatives of the Japanese side in the very near future.

MPR Foreign Ministry Cited on Cambodia

LD221543 Moscow TASS in English 1338 GMT 22 Oct 87

[Text] Ulaanbaatar October 22 TASS—A statement by a Mongolian Foreign Ministry spokesman published in the press describes as lopsided the position of some Western countries and their allies and a resolution on the Kampuchean question adopted on its basis by the 42nd U.N. General Assembly session.

Not only does the resolution put emphasis on the demand for an immediate withdrawal of Vietnamese volunteers from Kampuchea.[sentence as received] It does not reflect whatsoever the new tendency, that shaped up in the region, towards settling the situation around that country by political means, with due regard for the interests of all parties concerned which strive for talks.

An important step by leaders of the People's Republic of Kampuchea (PRK) in implementing the national reconciliation policy is their preparedness to conduct a dialogue with all opposition forces and press for a solution to the question in line with the Kampuchean national interests. The proposal by the PRK Government for convening an international conference on the Kampuchean problem involving all countries concerned is likewise congruent with this course.

It is common knowledge, the statement points out, that the Vietnamese and Kampuchean sides have already announced the terms for a complete withdrawal of Vietnamese volunteers from Kampuchea. Therefore, creating conditions that totally exclude interference in Kampuchea's internal affairs prior to this term is of exceptional importance.

The lack of an objective reflection of these positive tendencies in the U.N. General Assembly resolution does not accord with the principles and spirit of this organisation's charter and helps those who desire to preserve and sharpen the crisis situation in Kampuchea, the spokesman for the Mongolian Foreign Ministry emphasized.

BRIEFS

Agreement With Japanese University

Tokyo October 22 TASS—An agreement has been signed in Tokyo today on cooperation and academic ties between Moscow's Lomonosov State University and the Japanese Tokai University. It provides for the continuation in the course of the next five years of contacts between these major academic centres of the two countries. Moscow University and Tokai University have broadly exchanged students, lecturers and experts, held joint symposia and research in various fields since 1973. [Text] *[Moscow TASS in English 0818 GMT 22 Oct 87 LD]*

Southeast Asia & Pacific

PRAVDA Cites PRK Government Statement

PM221203 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 9 Oct 87 Second Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Cambodia's New Initiative"]

[Text] Phnom Penh, 8 Oct—"Positive improvements opening up the possibility of a way out of the impasse which for 8 years now has beset the problems of Cambodia and Southeast Asia can be observed in the present political situation," says a PRK Government statement published here today.

In pursuing a policy of national conciliation, the document points out, the PRK is ready to meet with Prince Norodom Sihanouk and also with the leaders of other opposition groupings for talks on settling the Cambodian problem by peaceful means and on national conciliation. Cambodia is ready to give Sihanouk a high post in state leadership organs, corresponding with his contribution to the cause of peace, national conciliation, and the independence of the

homeland. The PRK welcomes individuals and opposition groupings which will return to participate in the construction of the homeland, with the exception of Pol Pot and his immediate accomplices..

"The Vietnamese volunteer troops will be completely withdrawn from Cambodia as soon as all outside interference in Cambodia's affairs and the use of foreign territory against the PRK ceases," the document indicates. "After the withdrawal of the Vietnamese troops, general elections will be held in the presence of foreign observers and a coalition government will be formed to build a peaceful, independent, democratic, neutral, and nonaligned Cambodia with friendly relations with neighboring countries and with all states in the world."

The PRK calls for talks to be initiated either directly or through intermediaries with a view to reaching accords on transforming the Cambodian-Thai border into a border of peace and friendship. As for the refugee problem, "Cambodia is ready for talks with international humanitarian organizations and interested parties regarding the voluntary organized repatriation of all Cambodian refugees living in camps on Thai territory," the statement says.

"An international conference must be set up with the participation of both opposing Cambodian sides, the countries of Indochina and ASEAN, the Soviet Union, China, India, France, the United States, Britain, and also other states contributing to the peaceful settlement of the Cambodian problem and ensuring peace in Southeast Asia. The aim of the conference is to provide guarantees for the implementation of the accords reached, guarantees of Cambodia's national independence and of peace in Southeast Asia," the document stresses.

The PRK Government expresses the hope that as a result of the efforts of all sides a just political resolution of the Cambodian problem may be achieved conforming with Cambodians' interests and facilitating the consolidation of peace in Indochina and in Southeast Asia.

Offer to Sihanouk Praised

PM230831 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 10 Oct 87 Second Edition p 5

["Commentator's Column" by Yevgeniy Fadeyev: "Act of Good Will"]

[Text] The PRK Government has again made a statement designed to offer a fair political solution to the Cambodian problem. Yet another opportunity to get out of the impasse has been opened up within the framework of the program for uniting patriotic forces. Everyone can see how consistently Phnom Penh is pursuing a policy of national reconciliation.

This policy suggests uniting all Cambodians in a single bloc irrespective of their past, class and ethnic affiliation, and ideological and religious views. In August the PRK Government stated its readiness to begin talks to this end with all the Khmer groupings except Pol Pot and his immediate accomplices. Now that positive improvements can be seen in the political situation, Cambodia is going further. In particular Prince Sihanouk could occupy a high post in the organs of state leadership consonant with his contribution to national reconciliation.

The PRK Government's good will is evident. According to its statement, after the withdrawal of Vietnamese volunteer troops, and this will be possible with the end of outside interference in Cambodia's affairs, general elections will take place in the presence of foreign observers and a coalition government will be formed. Phnom Penh calls for the start of talks on transforming the Cambodian-Thai border into a border of peace and friendship. The republic is also ready for dialogue with international humanitarian organizations and interested parties concerning the voluntary organized repatriation of all Cambodian refugees in camps on Thai territory.

The international conference which the PRK Government is proposing to convene could be an important instrument. The opposing Cambodian sides could take part in it and also the representatives of the countries of Indochina and ASEAN, the Soviet Union, China, India, France, the United States, and Britain. Emissaries from other states could also take part in this conference. The aim of the forum is to contribute to peacefully settling the Cambodian problem and ensuring peace in Southeast Asia.

As PRK leaders rightly point out, the policy of national reconciliation conforms with the desires of the Cambodian people. It is an act of good will and an expression of high responsibility for the fate of the country.

The PRK's new constructive step has evoked a large international response. The SRV Government was one of the first to respond to it. A statement which has just been adopted confirmed that together with other interested countries it will make indefatigable efforts to activate dialogue in order to peacefully resolve the Cambodian problem, ensure peace, stability, and cooperation in Southeast Asia, and strengthen peace throughout the world. Let us hope that other interested parties will also display this sensible approach to the new PRK initiative.

ASEAN Opposition to U.S. Bases Viewed

BK221024 Moscow in Indonesian to Indonesia 1300 GMT 21 Oct 87

[Station commentary: "Military Bases and Security, Two Contradictory Terms"]

[Text] Indonesian Ambassador to the Philippines Mujono Purwonegoro recently issued a statement to the effect that the Indonesia Government disagrees with the idea that U.S. bases in the Philippines serve the security interests of Southeast Asia.

The Indonesian ambassador's statement has once again proved the nonsensical stand adopted by the U.S. Government on security issues in Southeast Asia. U.S. officials have tried to create a public opinion that the ASEAN countries benefit from the continued presence of U.S. military bases. They maintain that such bases contribute to the maintenance of stability and guarantee the ASEAN countries' security from a so-called external threat.

However, there is a growing belief among the six ASEAN member countries that the opposite is true; the presence of U.S. bases amounts to a source of danger and instability for the region.

In this connection, it is appropriate here to cite the Philippines vice president's remarks that there is a growing awareness in that country that the U.S. bases constitute an insult to national sovereignty and a source of nuclear danger.

There is a valid reason for him to reach such conclusion. Recent events in the Philippines show that in defending its military strategy, the United States has interfered in the internal affairs of sovereign countries and forced them to accept its wishes.

Despite its various efforts, Washington has failed to refute most of the evidence of its involvement in the recent conspiracy to oppose President Corazon Aquino who refuses to give assurances over the future of the bases in the Philippines.

Additionally, the White House is now trying to persuade the Manila government to expand bilateral military cooperation in solving the country's domestic problems.

The Philippines Government's concern over the U.S. diplomatic tactic is clearly understandable. The dispatch of arms and U.S. advisers has several times proved that it is a preliminary stage to direct military interference in the domestic affairs of Asian countries. There are also many examples of the danger of solving security issues through military means. One of them is the U.S. military buildup in the Persian Gulf, resulting in the escalation of tension in that region. Armed activities are steadily increasing while signs of widening regional conflict have emerged.

The ASEAN countries' concern is growing also due to the fact that, according to data compiled by international research centers, the Clark Field and Subic Bay Bases have been converted into stepping stones for U.S. nuclear facilities. Such bases are capable of accomodating U.S. Air Force strategic bombers. The bases also host the U.S. Seventh Fleet ships, whose activities continue to aggravate the situation and turn it into one similar to the Persian Gulf.

It is normal for the ASEAN leaders and public not to want to see such a tumultuous situation take place in their region. For this reason, ASEAN countries oppose the Pentagon's military presence in the region.

Near East & South Asia

Fires Extinguished on Kuwaiti Oil Terminal

LD222253 Moscow TASS in English 2201 GMT 22 Oct 87

[Text] London October 22 TASS—After two hours of the attempts to put out fire, the main hotbeds were eliminated in the Mina al-Ahmadi oil terminal near the Kuwaiti coast. According to the *Reuter* news agency a missile that blew up there today inflicted a serious damage on the oil terminal. Three people were wounded and several are reported missing. The main platform from which oil is fed to tankers was damaged. Workers are trying to stop the leakage of oil into the sea.

Kuwaiti official spokesmen said that the country would continue to meet its commercial commitments on oil exports in the same volume.

Reports on a missile attack at the Kuwaiti oil terminal immediately brought down of [as received] the exchange rate of shares at European stock exchanges.

Shaykh Salim al-Sabah, defense minister of Kuwait, said that the missile had been fired off Iranian territory because its flight had been detected by military observers in the Faylaka Island of Kuwait near the Al-Faw peninsula occupied by Iranian troops. A charge d'affairs ad interim of Iran to Kuwait was summoned today to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs where he was handed over an official note of protest.

Soviet Envoy Condemns Iranian Missile Attack

LD230848 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0817 GMT 23 Oct 87

[Text] Kuwait, 23 Oct (KUNA)—The Soviet ambassador to Kuwait published a statement here denouncing the new Iranian aggression against Kuwait as manifested in the Chinese-made Silkworm missile strike against the man-made oil-exporting island near Al-Ahmadi.

The Soviet Ambassador Ernest Zverev's statement, published in *Al-Anba* today described the aggression as a new link in a chain of hostile operations by Iran and the United States. He pointed out that the aggressions on oil tankers inside Kuwaiti territorial waters and on the oil-platforms' area of Al-Shu'aybah are irresponsible operations that lead to increasing tension in the region.

He added that proceeding from this the Soviet Union's attitude via-a-vis this issue is specific and clear: "We denounce the recent aggression against Kuwait as we

denounced the attack on the Liberian tanker and the tanker sailing under the U.S. flag in the Gulf; we also condemn the U.S. attack on the Iranian oil platforms."

He reaffirmed that such a development and the escalation of the war arouse extreme concern for all, primarily the Soviet Union. He pointed out that such aggressions constitute an extremely dangerous development, which may lead to the involvement of other states in the Gulf war, and may even extend to states outside the region.

He called for the necessary efforts to be made for convening a second UN Security Council meeting to implement Resolution 598, which calls for the immediate halt to the Iraq-Iran war.

Vinogradov Denies Soviet Tilt Toward Iran

LD222118 Moscow International Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 22 Oct 87

[Text] Recently Western and Arab newspapers published allegations to the effect that Soviet foreign policy in the Gulf region has tilted toward Iran. Are these sorts of allegations compatible with reality? Our correspondent asked this question of distinguished Soviet diplomat Vladimir Vinogradov, RSFSR foreign minister.

[Begin Vinogradov recording in Russian with superimposed Arabic translation] Vinogradov said: Your question was whether there has been any tilt in Soviet foreign policy towards Iran? My immediate reply is: No, such a thing has not occurred; our ship sails in a straight line. We have had and still have friendly relations with Arab countries. Our sentiments are still with the Arabs who are defending their national independence and struggling to remove the consequences of imperialist and Zionist aggression, as well as with those who are behind them in the Middle East. There is no doubt about that. However, regarding Iran, we have very long borders and long-standing historical relations with that country. Thus it is very natural that we would like to have friendly and normal relations with our southern neighbor as well as with the Arab countries. Therefore, allegations that there has been a tilt toward Iran in our foreign policy are unfounded.

Vladimir Vinogradov added: I am aware that such allegations might have been made under the influence of the current events in the Gulf region as a result of the Iraq-Iran war. I would like to point out that from the start we believed that this conflict is a catastrophe for the Iranian and the Iraqi people alike, and that it does not serve either country's interests. We have been and are still working to resolve this dangerous conflict as soon as possible through negotiations, that is, through peaceful means. And for the last 8 years we have been saying that if the flames of the Iraq-Iran war are not put out as soon as possible in a manner acceptable to both warring sides, imperialism would be given justification to interfere in the affairs of that region's countries. Naturally, we did not know then in what forms interference was going to take place. However, as you can see, we were right. The continued conflict has effecitvely given a pretext for the United States and other Western countries to send warships to the Gulf.

Vladimir Vinogradov continued: We are against this operation, because, in spite of international law, it can be depicted as de facto recognition of the right of any country to deal with the affairs of any other country with its fists. This is why we want to see all foreign fleets withdrawn and the normalization of the situation in the Gulf by the countries of the region, and if this is not possible, then through the United Nations. The Soviet Union fully supports UN Security Council Resolution 589 stipulating cessation of military operation on both sides, the withdrawal of troops, and an exchange of POW's, as well as the setting up of a fact-finding committee on why the war started. In addition, one of the resolution's clauses calls upon all countries to refrain from any act which might lead to the escalation of the conflict in the Gulf. Naturally, the increase of the military presence of the United States and its allies violates this UN call. Thus, it very doubtful that such acts will help bring the war to end; on the contrary, they increase the intensity of the conflict.

Vladimir Vinogradov concluded: In my opinion, the most important thing is to bring the Iraq-Iran conflict to an end as soon as possible, which would undoubtedly help in the normalization of the situation and the establishment of peaceful relations between the friendly peoples of Iraq and Iran forever. Thus, you can see that in this matter, our ship, sails straight and does not tilt towards any side.

U.S. Using Dolphins to Find Gulf Mines

LD230911 Moscow TASS in English 0901 GMT 23 Oct 87

[Text] New York October 23 TASS—The U.S. Navy is using specially trained dolphins to find submerged mines in the Persian Gulf.

The Defense Department has confirmed that five of them were brought to the region on October 13.

The dolphins, the Pentagon said in a statement, had been provided to the Midle East task force at the request of its commander for underwater reconnaissance and detection purposes. Other details are classified.

NBC television commented that it appeared to be the first case of dolphin use in actual combat operations.

But Pentagon officers requesting anonymity told the Associated Press that experiments involving dolphins and aiming to detect frogmen had been staged even way back during American aggression in Vietnam.

The U.S. Navy has been pursuing a program for training various sea animals, including dolphins, seals and whales, for military uses since 1962.

Ba'th Official Meets Brutents in Moscow
JN221906 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1815 GMT 22 Oct 87

[Text] Moscow—Comrade Muhammad Jabir Bajbuj, member of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party National Command, met with Karen Brutents, deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee's International Department, in Moscow today. Talks revolved around the relations of friendship and cooperation between the two friendly parties and countries.

Pakistan Signs Cultural, Scientific Program
PM221537 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 22 Oct 87 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS report under the general heading "Official Reports"]

[Text] On 20 October I.A. Rogachev, USSR deputy foreign minister, and Aziz Rakhim [name as published], secretary of the Pakistani Ministry of Culture, Sports, and Tourism, signed a program of cultural and scientific exchanges between the USSR and Pakistan for the period 1 July 1987 through 30 July 1989.

Airborne Patrols Monitor Afghan Caravans
PM191147 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDAinRussian9 Oct 87First Edition pp 1,3

[Own correspondent Lieutenant Colonel A. Oliynik dispatch: "Caravan Trails; Report on Detection Group Operations on Routes of Arms Shipments to the Afghan Dushmans"]

[Text] Limited Contingent of Soviet Troops in Afghanistan—at dawn the spurs of the Towr Ghar Black Mountains were still cloaked by night. But then the "Afghan wind" blew and the mist shook to reveal a chain of dark peaks colored by the light of dawn. Helicopter shadows slipped over the crags and dove into the dim depths—our detection group had been following the dushman caravan route for an hour already.

Ahead were a pair of MI-8's under the command of officer V. Krushinin. Slightly above and to the rear were a pair of fire-support helicopters headed by Lieutenant Colonel A. Malakhov. In order to avoid antiaircraft and machine gun fire we went unusually close to the mountains.

The leading helicopter executed a chandelle. There was a caravan dead ahead. Machine gun bullets churned the ground to the front and rear of the caravan. It would go no further.

"About to land," Krushinin called. "Cover me."

An MI-24 circled the plateau.

It was as if our helicopter was sinking into a pit in the air. Black crags, enormous boulders, and shrubs loomed up. Senior Lieutenant A. Chikhirev, commander of the detection group, who had seemed to be dreaming just a minute ago, was right on the ball, his eyes scanning the ground for the best place for an assault on the "hunchbacks"—as the caravans made up of dromedary camels are called.

On the caravan trails, one deadly mistake is the same as another. It has often been the case that you see a peaceful caravan and the drivers wave their arms in welcome, but as soon as the detection group gets within range submachineguns are pulled out from under torn coats and our lads are met with a hail of bullets.

"Battle stations!" was Chikhirev's blunt order.

There was a flash of machinegun magazines and a clicking of breeches. I examined the faces of the reconnaissance troops. They were all silently preparing to jump. Sergeant I. Golosov was straightening his spare magazine pouch. Lieutenant A. Sokolov, the interpretor, was laying down the collapsible stock of a machinegun. It was Andrey's first flight with the inspection group since his return from the hospital: He had been wounded on a trail while negotiating with a caravan whose path had been barred by the guards.

I secretly envied the reconnaissance troops' quiet calm and self-possession.

"Let's go!" Senior Lieutenant Chikhirev signaled.

The machine gunner and radio operator disappeared out the door. They hit the ground running. Now it was my turn. The main thing was to land on both feet—there were rocks all around.

It was about 150 meters to the now-immobile caravan. But what a distance! You could feel your heart thumping and sense the cold hand of fear: You were waiting for the shots. One hundred meters—no opposition. Seventy—all quiet. Fifty...

When I had traveled the day before to meet the reconnaissance troops deployed near the Pakistani border, I kept going over a song written here in Afghan territory:

"Aircraft fly

"Over the distant-rumbling battle,

"Carrying our lives

"To the enemy and our destiny..."

This could have been written for these officers and men in the detection groups. There is probably no situation today more dangerous than that in which these lads find themselves. I do not just know about the reconnaissance troops' work from songs: I once joined a reconnaissance subunit in capturing a caravan. The group was headed by Captain Ramil Abzalimov, twice holder of the Order of the Red Star.

I will probably never forget the outskirts of the village of Dand, where we were awaiting the dushmans. But, it turns out, we ourselves were ambushed. One, two, then three mortar shells were suddenly fired from behind a mud wall. They were firing at virtually point-blank range at the armored personnel carrier. Fortunately, they missed it. There was no fourth shell—our machine-gunner settled the score with the dushmans.

Capt Abzalimov has left for home, but the glory of this subunit is increasing. More than 15 men in this subunit alone have been awarded the Order of the Red Banner.

In his small office Lieutenant Colonel V. Giluch, commander of the subunit, familiarized us with the caravan trails from the Pakistani bases to the Black Mountains in the provinces of Konarha, Konduz, and Parvan and leading to the center of the country.

"Caravans sometimes number up to 300-400 pack animals," Lt Col Giluch told us. "They travel not only on camels, but use Japanese vehicles and tractors. Once over the border, the caravan breaks up into small groups. They move in secret, by night and at dawn. During the day they rest in ravines and caves. Their guards are always mobile—on horseback or motorcycles—and are armed with the latest weapons, including U.S. Stinger antiaircraft missiles. If detected they form a circle, radio for help, and destroy the most valuable arms. That is why engagements with them are always conducted by the most experienced and battle-hardened servicemen."

Among the reconnaissance officers Senior Lieutenant Chikhirev is very prestigious. A graduate of the Ryazan Higher Airborne Assault Command College named for the Lenin Komsomol, he teaches his subordinates to boldly take the high ground, to hold their breath on steep climbs, to hit the target on steep slopes, to maintain silence, and to use their bayonets and other self-defense means of combat. Smart and with a sunburned and weathered face, Aleksandr seems never to tire or to know fear. Literally the other day his detection group discovered and neutralized a weapons caravan. Reconnaissance troops are well aware of the price of each neutralized caravan. The dushmans seek revenge and try to follow and ambush the group. Their "blood oath" is no empty threat...

Now crouching, Chikhirev seemed to slide over the scree. But he did not lose sight of the chain of "hunchbacks" or the nearby cliffs. The commander gave orders through gestures and glances alone. D. Belykh and Y. Zaporozhets were the machine gunners on the flanks. Behind there was a covering group headed by Lieutenant V. Semenchenko. The commander, interpreter, and I approached the caravan guide. Nobody knew what lay in store just two meters ahead... A grenade, bullet, or dagger are not ruled out.

Extending his hands in greeting, a stocky turbaned man with a beard approached us. His name was Nur. Gesturing, he said that all 45 packs on the camels were empty, and that the caravan was going to the village of Marvand [name as transliterated] for firewood. Nur had heard nothing about reconciliation. The dushmans are banned from listening to Kabul Radio on pain of death.

While we were chatting with him, reconnaissance troops headed by Private S. Lukpanov passed along the caravan checking the contents of the packs. They soon reported that everything was in order.

"'Minutka' calling 'Vozdukh,'" the radio operator—Junior Sergeant N. Morgun—reported to the helicopter pilots. "No resistance."

Yes, this time the caravan was empty. But why did the usually proud Pushtun bid farewell in such a servile way? Why did he crack his driver's whip so zealously? The caravan slowly moved off.

"He's quite obviously lying," Senior Lieutenant Chikhirev grumbled. "They probably delivered their consignment to a secret cache at night, and are now going back for more. But just try proving it..."

National reconciliation—those words have been on Afghans' lips for 9 months now. The PDPA and the Afghan Government are making great efforts to ensure that the reconciliation process is irreversible. More than 30,000 people have lain down their arms, and around 80,000 refugees have returned from abroad. Measures are being taken to create a national government on the basis of the unification of all forces advocating an end to the "undeclared war," but the dialectics of reconciliation at the moment are such that the more effort the people's power puts into achieving peace, the more aggressive the "irreconcilable forces" nourished by the U.S. and Pakistani special services become. They are now gambling on the caravans. With their help the ringleaders of the counterrevolution are striving to inundate the country with weapons.

"The 'caravan war' has now reached its peak," Lieutenant General Shahnawaz Tanay, chief of the Afghan Army General Staff, told me. "This August alone all our various reconnaissance missions discovered around 200 large and small weapons caravans and transports crossing our border. Unfortunately, only half of them were routed, the rest have disappeared in the mountains..."

The situation on the Afghan-Pakistani border is now changing: Every day there are fewer and fewer undefended sectors. Weapons caravans increasingly find their way barred often by heliborne reconnaissance and detection groups, both Afghan and Soviet. Here are just a few examples during September.

On 14 September at 1020 hours a detection group led by Lieutenant Y. Stadnik discovered a munitions caravan in a region 10 km southwest of Lashkar Gah. The ensuing battle resulted in the deaths of 4 insurgents and the destruction of 40 surface-to-surface missiles and 60 antitank mines.

On 16 September at 0720 hours a detection group led by Lieutenant Y. Rybakov discovered and seized 19 missiles ready for launch against Jalalabad in a region 10 km southwest of the city.

On 17 September at 0900 hours a detection group led by officer V. Yeremeyev discovered a weapons caravan in a region 20 km southwest of Lashkar Gah. During the ensuing battle 25 insurgents were killed and 4 trucks, 1 tractor, 1,886 rockets, and 27,200 units of ammunition for mountain-version antiaircraft guns were destroyed. Two insurgents were captured...

These examples show the scale of the armed struggle mounted by the opponents of reconciliation. The "caravan war" takes place every night. They take a real beating, not every caravan reaches its destination with impunity. But it is also true that U.S. dollars immediately replace the routed caravans with new ones.

...A green flare traced an arc of smoke. The signal to assemble. Only in the helicopter we held our breath. And again the rotary-wing aircraft hovered beside the cliff faces. Dust clouds covered the low morning sun. Turning up my parka sleeves, I glanced at my watch: It was 0630. The inspection of the caravan took just 10 minutes, but it seemed like hours to me.

"Have sighted three groups of roughly 20 'hunchbacks' moving toward the border," the fire-support helicopter commander reported.

Senior Lieutenant Chikhirev commanded:

"Battle stations. Prepare to jump..."

This report was already written when there was tragic news from the reconnaissance troops' subunit—Senior Lieutenant Aleksandr Chikhirev had died heroically. He was killed in battle during a caravan inspection.

Briefs

Egyptian Cultural Protocol

Cairo, 22 Oct (TASS)—An exchange of films and cultural and sports television programs is now to be a regular event between the Soviet Union and Egypt. A protocol providing for the development of cooperation in the sphere of television was signed today in the Egyptian capital between the USSR State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting and the Egyptian Radio and Television Federation. On the Soviet side the document was signd by I. Y. Kezbers deputy chairman of the USSR Gosteleradio, and on the Egyptian side by Husayn 'Anan, head of the Egyptian Radio and Television Federation. [Text] *[Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1856 GMT 22 Oct 87 LD]*

East Europe

Romania-Turkey Welcome U.S.-USSR Missile Pact

LD222030 Moscow TASS in English 1817 GMT 22 Oct 87

[Text] Bucharest October 22 TASS—Romania and Turkey welcome the Soviet-American agreement in principle to eliminate medium- and shorter-range missiles and regard it as a major positive step towards universal disarmament, says a communique on the results of the state visit to Turkey by Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu and his talks with Turkish President Kenan Evren.

They expressed the desire that a corresponding treaty be signed as soon as possible.

The sides favoured the earliest conclusion of agreements directed at eliminating all chemical weapons and safeguarding stability and security in Europe and the world at large.

In discussing the situation in the Balkans, the presidents stressed the importance of promoting bilateral and multilateral relations with a view to settling by way of talks issues in relations between some Balkan nations, and of turning the Balkans into a zone of peace, goodneighbourhood and cooperation.

Having considered the situation in the Persian Gulf and in the Middle East, the sides stated the need for the immediate cessation of the Iran-Iraq war and a lasting and fair settlement of conflicts in the region.

A long-term agreement on trade exchanges and economic cooperation between the two countries was signed during the visit.

Zhivkov Reports to BCP on Restructuring

LD221806 Moscow TASS in English 1728 GMT 22 Oct 87

[Text] Sofia October 22 TASS—The Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party heard a report of general secretary of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party, President of the State Council of the People's Republic of Bulgaria Todor Zhivkov on the results of his meeting with General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev held during a brief working visit of the Bulgarian leader to the USSR.

The report published here today says that the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party expressed complete support for the viewpoint of the Soviet and Bulgarian leaders about the fundamental coincidence of the goals and tasks of the restructuring, of transformations in the USSR and the People's Republic of Bulgaria that are profound and revolutionary in nature. The steering activity of the CPSU and the Bulgarian Communist Party is the main motor and guarantor of a steady implementation of changes in all areas of public life of the two fraternal countries.

As the political vanguards of their peoples, the CPSU and the Bulgarian Communist Party ever fuller enlist creative energy and social creativity of the working people, draw them ever wider in the processes of renewal by means of the further development and deepening of socialist democracy, the document says. The Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party pointed to a fundamental international importance of the reorganisation in the USSR not only for the Soviet people but for the destiny of the peoples of the socialist countries, of entire humanity. The historic role of the constructive foreign policy of the country of the Great October for the safeguarding of peace and averting the threat of nuclear catastrophe has been emphasized again.

The Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party assessed as extremely useful the exchange of information and experience about forms and methods, scopes and rates of the reorganisation in the two countries and expressed profound satisfaction over mutual trust and mutual understanding, comradeliness and openness that are characteristic of relations between the CPSU and the Bulgarian Communist Party, between the USSR and the People's Republic of Bulgaria, the relations that are based on unbreakable principles of Marxism-Leninism and socialist internationalism. They welcomed the stand expressed by the general secretary of the Central Committee of the CPSU that the Soviet Union will continue doing everything possible for the further development and strengthening of fraternal friendship between the two countries which is the common boon of the peoples of the USSR and Bulgaria.

The Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party fully endorsed the arrangements between the two leaders to bring to a qualitatively new level on the basis of the reorganisation the fruitful and dynamic all-round cooperation between the two parties, countries and peoples, to implement the strategic course to bring closer the USSR and the People's Republic of Bulgaria. Concrete measures for the further widening and deepening of bilateral relations, enrichment of their contents and forms, imparting greater dynamism to their development in the spirit of arrangements reached during the visit were outlined and endorsed.

Albanian Leading Bodies Discuss Economy

PM221325 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 9 Oct 87 Second Edition p 5

[TASS report: "AWP Central Committee Politburo Session"]

[Text] Tirana, 8 Oct—ATA reports that a joint session of the AWP Central Committee Politburo and the Albanian Council of Ministers has been held. The session analyzed the implementation of the decisions of the AWP Central Committee Fourth Plenum on the plan targets for 1987. It was noted that targets are being met in the crucial areas of the economy.

The newspaper *Zeri I Popullit* stresses in connection with the joint session that the country's ferrous and nonferrous metallurgical industries and enterprises mining ferronickel, copper ore, and coal have overfulfilled their targets. Analyzing the situation in various sectors, the AWP Central Committee organ stresses that the construction, transport, and trade spheres are developing successfully. It notes that a good wheat crop has been harvested.

The joint session was addressed by AWP Central Committee First Secretary R. Alia.

SFRY Anthology of Gorbachev Speeches

PM221545
MoscowPRAVDAinRussian14 Oct 87Second Editionp 5

[TASS report: "Published in Yugoslavia"]

[Text] Belgrade, 13 Oct—An anthology of speeches, interviews, and other utterances by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, covering the period from January 1986 through April 1987 has been published in Serbo-Croatian in Yugoslavia under the general title "Restructuring." The anthology includes, in particular, M.S. Gorbachev's speech at the CPSU Central Committee January (1987) Plenum and his speeches in Vladivostok, at the SED and PZPR congresses, in Delhi, at the Lenin Komsomol forum, at the Reykjavik press conference, and at the Moscow reception in honor of the LCY Central Committee delegation. The publication is illustrated with more than

30 color photographs which have gone down as a documentary chronicle in the modern history of world civilization's development along the path toward world peace, disarmament, and security.

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'Terrorist' Equipment Found in Poland

PM221043 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 8 Oct 87 Second Edition p 5

[Own correspondent O. Losoto dispatch: "Trailer's Secret Load"]

[Text] Warsaw, 7 Oct—A few days ago a trailer without license plates was left in the car park of a Gdansk hotel. Soon a certain Krzysztof S. appeared near the trailer with a special vehicle to tow it away.

Internal Affairs Ministry workers detained the trailer. Eight optical sights for small arms, 16 cattle prods, and 7 gas pistols with cartridges were found in secret compartments in it. In addition, listening devices, printers, anti-Polish subversive literature printed in the West, and other items were found. It was established that the trailer had come from Switzerland.

Yesterday at a press conference J. Urban, the government's press spokesman, showed a videotape of the objects that were found.

The economic reforms and the democratization of social life now being implemented in Poland, J. Urban stated, are taking the wind out of the sails of the political opponents of socialism. This is alarming them. Therefore some illegal groups using the name "Solidarity" intend to resort to terrorism. Thus, on the one hand there is the fine talk of national harmony and human rights which these people utter in the diplomatic salons of certain Western embassies, and on the other there is the secret import of terrorist equipment.

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West Europe

Soviet-Austrian Cooperation Commission Meets

LD222308 Moscow TASS in English 1909 GMT 22 Oct 87

[Text] Moscow October 22 TASS—A plenary meeting of the 19th session of the mixed Soviet-Austrian commission on economic, scientific and technical cooperation was held here today. It analyzed a wide range of concrete problems connected with trade, economic, scientific and technical cooperation between the Soviet Union and Austria, including development of production cooperation, creation of joint enterprises, cooperation on a compensation basis, joint ventures in the markets of third countries, and organization of trade along the Danube.

Ryzhkov Meets Austria's Graf

LD221639 Moscow TASS in English 1507 GMT 22 Oct 87

[Text] Moscow October 22 TASS—Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers Nikolay Ryzhkov received in the Kremlin today Austria's Federal Minister of Economics, Robert Graf, in Moscow to attend a session of the mixed Soviet-Austrian commission for economic, scientific and technological cooperation.

The Soviet Union, in pursuing a course towards establishing a comprehensive system of international security, Ryzhkov said, regarded further consolidation of friendly ties with Austria as an important direction in its European policy.

Consistent implementation of the restructuring drive was creating favourable opportunities for broad development of all-round cooperation between East and West.

The sides examined the present state and prospects of developing Soviet-Austrian relations in the light of the implementation of agreements reached during the Soviet premier's visit to Austria last July.

Special attention was given to issues of promoting cooperation between the two countries in various spheres of inter-state relations, including political contacts that strengthened confidence and business atmosphere in Soviet-Austrian relations.

They also considered ways of increasing the efficiency of trade and economic exchanges and invigorating new forms of cooperation, such as establishment of joint enterprises, promotion of co-production in various industrial branches and joint construction of facilities in the USSR.

U.S. Arms Supplies Flown to Netherlands

LD221756 Moscow TASS in English 1726 GMT 22 Oct 87

[Text] The Hague October 22 TASS—An American transport plane C-5A "Galaxy" has landed today at the Dutch Woensdrecht Airbase where 48 American cruise missiles are to be deployed late in 1988, in accordance with NATO plans. A representative of the Defence Ministry of the Netherlands said that the plane had brought military equipment, intended to have the base prepared for accepting the missiles: communication equipment, simulators, logistic support systems. They will be put at the disposal of 500 American specialists who are already in Woensdrecht, not far from the Belgian frontier. According to the defence ministry's representative, there are no cruise missile components aboard the "Galaxy".

This is the first American plane, which arrived in the Netherlands with military cargo for the Woensdrecht base.

The Government of the Netherlands repeatedly declared that the work to prepare the base to accepting American "Tomahawk" missiles would continue in accordance with the agreed upon time-schedule until the Soviet-American agreement on elimination of medium- and shorter-range missiles is signed. The USSR and the United States are known to have reached an accord on signing such an agreement.

The decision of the Dutch government to give the "green light" to cruise missiles has given rise to protests in the country. The residents of the Netherlands do not want to see it turned in a Pentagon's nuclear bridgehead. The arrival of the American plane was kept secret till the last moment. Its arrival was officially reported only when it landed. That was done seemingly to avoid possible actions of Dutch peace campaigners, local observers note.

Thatcher Comments on Arms Issues Noted

PM221529 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 12 Oct 87 Morning Edition p 1

[Own correspondent A. Krivopalov dispatch: "Prime Minister's Keynote Speech"]

[Excerpts] London—The annual Conservative conference, which took place in Blackpool this time, ended with a speech by M. Thatcher, leader of the party and British prime minister. [passage omitted]

In her speech, the prime minister touched on defense problems. She stated that she welcomes the prospect of concluding an agreement between the United States and the Soviet Union on elimination of medium- and shorter-range missiles which, she claimed, Britain helped to achieve to a significant degree. M. Thatcher also said that, in her opinion, reducing strategic nuclear arms by 50% does not present a threat to Western security.

Nonetheless, the Conservative leader confirmed her unchanged attitude to nuclear weapons as, allegedly, the guarantor of peace and stressed that she will continue to develop and improve the British "deterrent."

Britain To 'Rent' Missiles From U.S.

LD230355 Moscow TASS in English 2249 GMT 22 Oct 87

[Text] London October 22 TASS—TASS correspondent Andrey Birukov reports:

Britain is to "rent" the Trident D5 nuclear missiles, and not to purchase them from the United States when the Polaris deterrent is replaced in the 1990s.

The Times reports that this decision has been taken by the governments of the two countries and recorded in an appropriate treaty.

This sensational report produced a shell-shock effect in the British capital. Joan Ruddock, a prominent figure of the British anti-war movement, member of parliament, has said in this connection that if this is true, the report confirms that Britain has no independent nuclear deterrent force.

David Owen, former leader of the Social Democratic Party, has emphasized, for his part, that that will be yet another evidence of what has long been spoken of now by everyone, namely, that Britain fully depends on U.S. favour.

In an attempt to avert yet another political scandal, the British Defence Ministry hurried to state that the British government would ostensibly exercise full control over the U.S. missiles.

Obviously inspired articles began to appear in the press to the effect that such a measure would ostensibly make it possible to save 700 million pounds sterling. However, London's demarches have been in point of fact disavowed by the military themselves.

Officials at the su' narine base at Faslane, on the Clyde, confirmed the press report, pointing out that the missiles would be "rented". An arsenal staff member who asked not to be identified, at Coulport, where the U.S. missiles would be kept together with British nuclear warheads, told the *Press Association* that the missiles would remain American and that all the necessary operations with them would be carried out by a group of American experts.

In this connection Denzil Davies, the 'shadow' defence secretary of the Labour Party, has stated that if all these data are confirmed it will become clear that any semblance of independence has vanished.

He said it had been customary to believe that the British nuclear force was independent. However, it would be much more honest to admit that Britain could not play missile games any longer and should abandon any efforts in this field.

Dobrynin Meets Soviets at Bonn Embassy

PM221451 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Oct 87 Second Edition p 5

[TASS report under the general heading "Official Reports"]

[Text] Bonn, 14 Oct—A.F. Dobrynin, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, met with the aktiv of Soviet institutions in the FRG on the evening of 13 October at the Soviet Embassy in Bonn.

Mitterrand in FRG Cited on 'United Europe'

PM231051 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 Oct 87 Second Edition p 5

[Own correspondent Y. Yakhontov dispatch: "In Search of a 'Common Strategy'"]

[Text] Bonn, 21 Oct—French President F. Mitterrand, in the FRG on an official visit, delivered a speech yesterday in the city of Aachen, devoted to creating a "united Western Europe." This theme has already been the subject of discussion in conversations between the French visitor and both FRG leaders and Social Democratic Party Chairman H.-J. Voegel and Christian Social Union Chairman F.-J. Straus.

By a "common strategy for Europe," the French president means elaboration of a joint foreign policy and security policy, economic integration, and creation of a single currency. In his opinion, more active cooperation is also needed in technology and culture.

Speaking of the problems of a "united Europe," F. Mitterrand indicated the need to create a common system of security. Here he stated that if the great powers, once they have concluded an agreement on eliminating medium- and lesser-range missiles, tackle reduction of their strategic weapons, then France will be prepared to follow their example.

The president noted further that France's nuclear potential serves the exclusive purpose of deterring a potential aggressor and may be employed only against the latter. As a friendly country, the FRG is not threatened by these weapons. But France cannot defend the FRG. Only NATO, of which France is a member, can make war in Europe, which, in the president's opinion, is unlikely today, impossible.

Meets Kohl, Other Officials

LD221753 Moscow TASS in English 1630 GMT 22 Oct 87

[Text] Bonn October 22 TASS—Topical problems of East-West relations, problems of disarmament and arms control, as well as development of cooperation between Bonn and Paris were discussed during official visit of French President Francois Mitterrand to the FRG that ended today. He held talks with Federal Chancellor Helmut Kohl, with Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher, other West German high officials, leaders of parties, represented in the Bundestag.

A statement by an official spokesman of the FRG Government says that the visit of the French president confirmed the striving of both countries for the further widening of interaction in every area, the military area is included: The sides agreed, specifically, to continue the talks connected with the preparation for setting up a joint defence council and a West German-French military unit.

These plans have been sharply condemned by the Greens party which made a demand to Bonn and Paris to issue a joint proposal on disarmament, instead of conducting talks on the strengthening of West German-French military cooperation. Deputy of the Bundestag from the SDPG [Social Democratic Party of Germany] Erwin Horn is of the opinion that military projects of the FRG and France would hamper the East-West dialogue on disarmament, rather than promote it.

During the visit Francois Mitterrand said that France intends to support the efforts for disarmment and to follow the USSR and the USA if they take "another step in that direction". At the same time he left no doubt that his country will continue adhering to the strategy of nuclear deterrence.

Gorbachev Book Published in Finland

LD222249 Moscow TASS in English 2158 GMT 22 Oct 87

[All quotation marks as received]

[Text] Helsinki October 22 TASS—The "Weilin and Goeoes" publishers of Finland have issued in Finnish a collection of speeches and articles by Gerneral Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev, entitled *"Perestroyka" ("Restructuring")*. They are devoted to topical problems of the international and home policy of the CPSU and the Soviet state, the efforts being undertaken by the Soviet Union in the struggle for peace, disarmament, international cooperation.

The collection includes Mikhail Gorbachev's articles at the CPSU Central Committee's plenary meetings (June 1986, January and June 1987), international forums, meetings with prominent politicians, directors of mass media agencies, journalists, other materials on most important areas of the CPSU's activities.

The book opens up with Mikhail Gorbachev's preface addressed to the Finnish reader.

The book was launched for the Finnish public in a ceremony held at the USSR's Embassy in Helsinki today. The ceremony was attended by deputies of parliament, representatives of the Foreign Ministry, political parties, public organizations, owners of publishing and book trading organizations, journalists.

"Perestroyka" is the second book by General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev, issued by our publishing house, said Juha Vuori-Karvia, managing director of "Weilin and Goeoes". The very title of the book which entered the political vocabulary, evinces the broad interest now being shown in the Soviet Union on the part of the public, politicians, business circles. This, naturally, gives rise to the desire to get additional information on the process of transformations which us under way in the neighbouring country.

The aim of the book is to give the reader a possibility to get acquainted with important documents and materials on the main areas of the Soviet foreign and home policy. I am confident that the book has all prerequisites to become a practical instrument for understanding the development which is taking place in the Soviet Union.

The representative of the publishing house expressed satisfaction with the fact that the book had been issued in the jubilee year—the 70th anniversary of the Great October Revolution and the 70th anniversary of Finland's state independence.

"This is already the second, enlarged edition of my book in Finland", says an address to the Finnish reader by General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev. The first edition was issued comparatively recently. But time flies, and changes both in our country and in the international scene are taking place perhaps even faster. The reader of the book will also feel, I hope, the fresh and growing wind of changes in the Soviet foreign and home policy.

What will the future be in? It is by no means moving on us as some fatal and unknown force. It will be created with our hands, through the mutual efforts and aspirations. It depends on us.

I would like to draw to the following the attention of the readers, who are reflecting with interest on that topic.

We are aiming at consolidation of universal peace not only because in other conditions we shall be unable to attain the goal of our restructuring—to elevate our socialist society to a qualitatively new stage of progress. We are aiming at peace because this is the supreme right and supreme good of every person, every nation. It is criminal and immoral to build one's well-being through unhappiness of others. This refers to every-day life of people, and in no lesser extent—to every-day life of the whole of the world community. Such is actually the initial point of our Soviet philosophy of peace, our political morale. You will be able to become convinced of that, I am sure, on having read the book offered to your attention.

The philosophy of our international course is inseparable from the philosophy of the revolutionary reconstruction of all aspects of life of Soviet society. The first edition of the book familiarized you with its initial stages. The year of 1987 was marked for us by two big milestones in the reconstruction drive—the January and June plenary meetings of the CPSU Central Committee. Both plenary meetings signify the transition from drawing up the strategic reconstruction course to practical actions in putting it into life. The January plenary meeting made emphasis on drawing all Soviet people into that work—through all-round and profound democratisation of life, development of public openness, the flourishing of the personality. The June plenary meeting approved a radical and comprehensive progam of establishing a new mechanism of managing the economy, being up to these demands, the first elements of which are being laid on the basis of the law on the state enterprise which was passed by the USSR Supreme Soviet.

The serious changes in that mechanism taking place, the fundamentally new approach to the broadening of the USSR's foreign economic relations open up prospective possibilities also for the future of our trade and economic relations—not only from the viewpoint of their perfection but also through the use of absolutely new ways and forms of cooperation, they have not yet been tested in practice. The quest is needed here, it is necessary to find the proper link-up between our and your economic experience, our and your interests. Alluring decisions, I believe, can be found, provided the mutual striving.

There is something from our past for our countries to treasure and appreciate, which can be taken into the future in conditions of changes which are taking place or will take place. It is particularly opportune to speak of that in the current year—the jubilee year for the Soviet-Finnish relations: On December 31, 1917 the founder of the Soviet state V.I. Lenin signed the decreee on recognition of Finland's state independence. The beginning of a new era in the life of the peoples of our countries—this year we shall mark the 70th anniversary of the October Revolution—thus coincided with the historical turn in the destinies of the people of Finland who had their long-cherished national goal—their own statehood—attained.

The Soviet Union is building its relations with Finland on the basis of sovereign equality, respect for its independence and self-sufficiency. We shall be guided by these principles which have stood the test of time, at any weather, at any changes, as they say.

We are confident that these principles fully meet the "Paasikivi-Kekkonen" line which has been for many years now favourably affecting the Soviet-Finnish relations and which we treat with full confidence.

I avail myself of the opportunity to wish once again peace, happiness and well-being to the people of friendly Finland.

[signed] M. Gorbachev

Political & Social

More on Supreme Soviet Session

People's Control Change

PM221403 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Oct 87Second Editionp 2

["USSR Supreme Soviet Resolution Ratifying the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium Decree Changing the Composition of the USSR People's Control Committee"]

[Text] The USSR Supreme Soviet decrees:

That the 7 July 1987 USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium decree releasing Comrade Nikolay Kuzmich Dolgushkin from membership of the USSR People's Control Committee and appointing Komsomol Central Committee Secretary Comrade Valentin Petrovich Denisov member of the USSR People's Control Committee be ratified.

A. Gromyko, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium

T. Menteshashvili, secretary of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium

The Kremlin, Moscow, 20 October 1987.

Ratifies Past Changes

PM221357 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Oct 87 Second Edition p 2

["USSR Supreme Soviet Resolution Ratifying USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium Decrees on the Release and Appointment of Members of the USSR Council of Ministers"]

[Text] The USSR Supreme Soviet decrees:

That the following USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium decrees be ratified:

The 18 July 1987 decree releasing Comrade Leonid Ivanovich Khitrun from the post of USSR minister of machine building for animal husbandry and feed production on his transfer to other work;

The 18 July 1987 decree releasing Comrade Sergey Aleksandrovich Afanasyev from the post of USSR minister of heavy and transport machine building on his retirement;

The 20 July 1987 decree appointing Comrade Aleksandr Aleksandrovich Yezhevskiy USSR minister of agricultural and tractor machine building;

The 20 July 1987 decree appointing Comrade Vladimir Makarovich Velichko USSR minister of heavy, power, and transport machine building;

The 8 August 1987 decree appointing Comrade Mikhail Antonovich Korolev chairman of the USSR State Committee for Statistics;

The 22 August 1987 decree releasing Comrade Viktor Vladimirovich Dementsev from the post of chairman of the USSR State Bank Board on his retirement;

The 22 August 1987 decree appointing Comrade Nikolay Viktorovich Garetovskiy chairman of the USSR State Bank Board.

A. Gromyko, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium

T. Menteshashvili, secretary of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium

The Kremlin, Moscow, 20 October 1987.

Supreme Court Personnel Change

PM221407 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Oct 87 Second Edition p 2

["USSR Supreme Soviet Resolution Ratifying USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium Decrees Changing the Composition of the USSR Supreme Court"]

[Text] The USSR Supreme Soviet decrees:

That the following USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium decrees be ratified:

The 7 July 1987 decree releasing Comrade Yevgeniy Alekseyevich Smolentsev from the post of deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Court on his transfer to other work;

The 2 October 1987 decree releasing Comrade Kydyrgeldy Meyramov from membership of the USSR Supreme Court on his transfer to other work.

A. Gromyko, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium

T. Menteshashvili, secretary of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium

The Kremlin, Moscow, 20 October 1987.

Gostev Concluding Speech

PM221347 Moscow
IZVESTIYAinRussian21 Oct 87Morning Editionp 3-4

["Concluding Speech by Deputy B.I. Gostev, USSR Minister of Finance," at 20 October Evening joint session of the USSR Supreme Soviet Soviet of the Union and Soviet of Nationalities]

[Text] Esteemed Comrade Deputies! The USSR Supreme Soviet Soviet of Nationalities and Soviet of the Union have thoroughly discussed the USSR State Budget for 1988 which was submitted by the USSR Council of Ministers. The budget for the 3d year of the 5-year plan accords with the strategic course of the 27th CPSU Congress aimed at the accelerated development of Soviet society and with the directives of the Central Committee January and June Plenums for the radical restructuring of economic management. The course of the discussion makes it possible to conclude that the budget has the full support of the Plan and Budget Commissions, other standing commissions, and all the deputies who took part in the debate.

The deputies approved radical changes in the financial and credit mechanism which are contained in the budget and are based on the stipulations of the Law on the State Enterprise and the fuller use of economic accountability [khozraschetnyy) relations in sectors of the national economy and in the regions. It was emphasized that there is clear evidence in the budget of the line aimed at intensifying the policy of thrift, concentrating financial resources in key areas of national economic development, and enhancing people's living standards.

As a result of an in-depth examination of the draft, the chambers' Plan and Budget and other standing commissions submitted proposals for an increase of R153.6 million in budget income, including R93.8 million in turnover tax, R52.3 million in payments from profit, and R7.5 million in other income.

It is proposed to use the identified additional resources to improve Soviet people's social and living conditions, taking account of applications from union republic councils of ministers and recommendations from commissions of the USSR Supreme Soviet chambers.

I have been instructed to report that the USSR Council of Ministers deems it expedient to adopt the proposed amendments to the individual items of income and expenditure of the USSR State Budget for 1988.

A number of deputies put forward proposals pertaining to the improvement of financial and economic work in their speeches.

Deputy L.A. Gorshkov submitted a proposal for changing the existing procedure for financing the construction, repair, and maintenance of motor roads. It must be admitted that the present system is indeed inadequate. On the instructions of the government, the Gosplan and the Ministry of Finance, together with other interested organs, are elaborating proposals to define the scale of the means earmarked for these purposes broken down by region in accordance with stable normatives.

Deputies V.A. Masol, G.V. Yudanov, and G.KH. Kadyrov raised the question of the further improvement of economic normatives. This question is fully justified. There are big discrepancies in normatives between individual enterprises. This is due to the fact that they were elaborated on the basis of the indicators of the current 5-year plan. A scientifically substantiated definition of norms and normatives can come fully into play as from the 13th 5-Year Plan and they will be used as a basis when drafting the plan.

Deputy N.S. Konarev expressed the view that the financial resources allocated to the USSR Ministry of Railways for capital overhauls and to increase the normative for its own circulating capital are insufficient.

It is necessary to stress that the expenditure for the aforementioned items was defined on the basis of existing norms and normatives. Additional means for capital overhauls are needed to cover the overexpenditure in past years. In our opinion, they must be found above all within the sector itself, making full use of the economic accountability mechanism. This does rule out, of course, that the USSR Ministry of Finance will look into these problems together with the USSR Ministry of Railways.

Individual proposals on financial questions were submitted by deputies F.Ye. Tsurkanu and A.M. Masaliyev.

The USSR Ministry of Finance will attentively examine all observations and proposals made by deputies during the discussion of the draft budget and will adopt the measures necessary in this context. On questions which must be decided by the government, the appropriate proposals will be submitted to the USSR Council of Ministers. Deputies and the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium will be briefed on the results.

Comrade deputies! The USSR Supreme Soviet is concluding the discussion of the draft state budget for the next year of the 5-year plan. When approved, it assumes the force of a law. What is most important now is organizational work to ensure its fulfillment and the practical implementation of all the financial targets. And the targets are demanding, they are based on the maximum use of all production reserves. This will call for great efforts on the part of labor collectives, union republic councils of ministers, and ministries and departments. Success in this matter will depend largely on skillful management, the active application of the principles of full economic accountability and self-financing, and the intensification of the policy of savings

and thrift in the consumption of material, labor, and financial resources. Here it will be necessary to make full use of the potential provided by the Law on the Enterprise.

The resolution of current tasks is to be organically combined with the elaboration of a special program designed to radically rectify the financial situation. This program will have to be elaborated proceeding from labor collectives to the upper echelons of management. It must become an effective means for resolving both current and long-term tasks in the sphere of finance. (Applause)

Shcherbina on Fuel, Energy

PM221515 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
21 Oct 87Morning Editionp 5

["Reply by B.YE. Shcherbina, Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers and Chairman of the Council of Ministers Bureau for the Fuel and Energy Complex, to a Question Put by Deputies A.S. Kulenov, F.P. Lopatin, and V.A. Vasilyev" at the 20 October evening joint session of the Supreme Soviet Soviet of the Union and Soviet of Nationalities"]

[Text] Esteemed Comrades! I have been instructed to report to the USSR Supreme Soviet on the progress of preparations for the functioning of the national economy in the winter period and the steps taken to ensure fuel and electricity supplies to the population in connection with a question put by deputies.

The preparations for the winter are taking place in conditions when the energy program is being restructured, modernized, and clarified and a situation where we have not yet fully restored the losses connected with Chernobyl and where a readjustment of the structure and proportions of electricity generation by nuclear and thermal power stations is under way.

On the whole, preparations for the winter are proceeding better than in past years. Many people have drawn the right conclusions from the lessons of last winter. A party Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers resolution on these questions has been adopted and is being implemented. The volume of work in hand has increased considerably. Certification of the readiness for the winter of enterprises, housing, and other municipal economy installations is nearing completion. Deputies' commissions and soviets of people's deputies are doing a great deal of work at local level. Ministries, departments, and labor collectives have stepped up their work.

Nonetheless, the standard of organization and the quality of the work that is being carried out are causing serious concern. This applies in particular to power generation, housing and the municipal economy, the agricultural complex, and transport.

Time for completing the prewinter work is running out. According to the hydrometeorological service, winter is expected to be colder than usual. However, we understand that this is not the low-temperature "limit." We must prepare for work in the worst conditions.

First of all, about the fuel situation. The planned extraction targets have been exceeded by all the ministries of the complex. During the 9-month period 25 million tonnes of standard fuel were extracted in excess of the plan, including 12 million tonnes of coal, more than 5 million tonnes of oil and gas condensate, and around 9 billion cubic meters of gas. This is enough fuel to cover the needs of 5 cities with a population of 1 million each. The plans for the production of light petroleum products and fuel oil have also been exceeded. In the country as a whole consumers' fuel stocks exceed the target. There are 53 billion cubic meters of gas in underground storage facilities, which is 8 billion cubic meters more than planned. Power station collectives too have met their target for building up stocks of coal and fuel oil. At the same time at individual enterprises targets are not being met and coal stocks are lower than last year.

The stocks of coking coal are smaller than planned. The government has issued the necessary instructions to the Ministry of Ferrous Metallurgy, the Ministry of the Coal Industry, and the Ministry of Railways.

Consumers' stocks of coal could be much higher if the Ministry of Railways had ensured the transportation of coal. Over the 9-month period a shortfall of 5.5 million tonnes has been allowed to build up in the transportation of coal, 3 million tonnes of this in September. At the moment there are 12 million tonnes of coal in excess of the norm at mine, open-cut mine, and enrichment factory depots.

In order to further improve the reliability of fuel deliveries to the national economy and the population, oil and gas workers and miners collectives have set themselves the task of ensuring the extraction of more than 3 million tonnes of oil and gas condensate, 8-9 billion cubic meters of gas, and 10-11 million tonnes of coal in excess of the state order in the fourth quarter of this year and the first quarter of 1988. This will be an important boost for the winter period.

This is not the first year that the country's national economy is being supplied with only standard grade electricity. In accordance with the plan the Ministry of Power and Electrification is completing repairs on power stations in October. Repairs at a number of nuclear power stations are behind schedule; they will be completed in November.

Concern is being caused by the need in some cases for repeated repairs because of their low quality in the first place. Special attention must be paid to enhancing the reliability of thermal power stations in Gorkiy, Syzran,

Kazan, Kuybyshev, Kamensk, and Kurgan, whose operation last winter was extremely irregular. Service chiefs and city soviets must not be complacent about the work done at these stations.

The Ministry of Power and Electrification has in the main completed work in preparing city heating networks for the winter. However, in Kuybyshev, Odessa, Kemerovo, and some other cities these repairs have not yet been entirely finished. The construction of new main heating conduits is being held up in a number of places because of delayed pipe deliveries. In view of the lengths of time they are in use, the overall situation concerning heat networks also demands special attention from municipal services and heating engineers and a readiness on their part to deal with breakdowns quickly.

Among the range of measures to prepare for the winter, the construction and commissioning of new power generation capacities is lagging most. This is a consequence of major shortcomings in the organization of their construction on the part of the Ministry of Power and Electrification. However, the machine building ministries which are disrupting equipment deliveries—primarily the Ministry of Heavy and Transport Machine Building, Ministry of Chemical and Petroleum Machine Building, and Ministry of the Electrical Equipment Industry—must also accept a considerable share of the responsibility. Never before has there been a situation where supplies of equipment to stations earmarked for commissioning had not been completed by October.

As a result of this situation new installations with a capacity of 11 million kilowatts against the annual total of 15.2 million kilowatts remain to be commissioned in the fourth quarter. The construction of the Berezovskaya, Gusinoozerskaya, and Novoangrenskaya GRES's, Amurskaya and Novosibirskaya TETS's, and some other power stations is far behind schedule.

In 1987 installations with a capacity of 4.5 million kilowatts will be commissioned at nuclear power stations. Of these, construction work on installations with a capacity of 1.5 million kilowatts has been completed. At the Zaporozhye and Khmelnitskiy AES's precommissioning tests are under way. In November the No 3 unit of Chernobyl will be restored.

Nuclear power stations' share of electricity generation will increase. Their construction demands considerably more attention.

In view of the situation that is developing, the stable operation in the future of integrated power networks can be ensured by the unconditional observance by all oblasts and republics of electricity consumption quotas and the detailed regionalized peak-load timetables.

Transportation is preparing for the winter better than in past years. At the same time, track repairs on the Volga, Southeast, and South Urals railroads are behind schedule. On some railroads repairs of snow removal machinery and housing and office electricity supply facilities are lagging. Work is still in progress on sidings of Ministry of the Production of Mineral Fertilizers, Ministry of Construction in the Southern Regions of the USSR, Ministry of the Coal Industry, and Ministry of Chemical and Petroleum Machine Building industrial enterprises. Some enterprises have not yet prepared loading and unloading facilities and thawing installations for the winter.

Republic councils of ministers have reported that in most areas measures to prepare housing and municipal economy installations for the winter are nearing completion. At the same time, according to information of the USSR State Committee for Statistics, these preparations had not been completed by 1 October in 23 oblasts, krays, and autonomous republics of the RSFSR. This work is lagging most in Uzbekistan, Georgia, a number of oblasts in the Ukraine, the Tajik SSR, and Kirghizia.

Work on boiler houses and heating networks administered by local soviets is behind schedule. In a number of cities preparations of municipal, electrical, and other passenger road transport have not been completed.

Fuel supplies to the population demand much attention. The district heating network is being expanded in the country and electrification and the provision of gas supplies are progressing fast. At the same time a substantial proportion of the population continues to use coal, peat, and wood.

The government has adopted a number of radical measures on these questions. The 1987-1988 stocks of fuel for the population have been considerably increased against the plan targets. In the coming year they will increase by 8.3 million tonnes, including 2 million tonnes in high-grade coal and briquets. These stocks have also been considerably increased for the last quarter of the current year and the first quarter of 1988.

In accordance with the Council of Ministers resolution on measures to improve supplies of fuel to the population and to municipal economy enterprises in the 12th 5-Year Plan, 10 union republics have already approved new norms for the distribution to the population of fuel depending on climatic conditions and also the size of the premises to be heated. These norms are being introduced as from 1 January 1988. They are higher than the existing norms.

It is not possible, on the basis of present-day resources, to supply the population exclusively with high-grade coal. This type of coal is supposed to account for 86 percent of market stocks. The violation of this principle—and letters indicate that there are violations—is the result of arbitrary action at local level and of disorder at

fuel depots. Order must be established in this sphere following the example of the Baltic republics. If the sales and deliveries of coal, wood, and peat to the population were organized everywhere as well as they are there, the fuel supply situation would markedly improve.

Of course, people who are cutting back the use of local resources are acting incorrectly. For instance, the plan for the procurement of fuel peat was fulfilled only 29% in RSFSR oblasts, and the briquet production plan 75%. The weather is being blamed; but in Belorussia, with the same weather conditions, these targets have been exceeded.

The Ministry of the Coal Industry is in arrears to the population. Minister Comrade Shchadov must ensure the acceleration of the reconstruction of enrichment factories, the commissioning of the Kumertau briquet factory, and the stepped up development of the Shebarkulskoye deposit. It is necessary to draw up and implement a program for considerably increasing the capacity of coal briquetting installations with a view to resolving the problem of ensuring high-grade coal and coal briquet supplies to the population within the shortest possible time. Neglect in this matter cannot be tolerated any longer.

There is another problem which has a direct bearing on preparations for the winter, despite its wider implications. It is energy saving. Ultimately it is a question of ensuring the entire increase in the consumption of fuel and electricity resources through savings. So far the energy intensiveness of production remains high and is decreasing slowly. "Modest" energy saving targets and the absence of an economic mechanism are both to blame. We have still not brought the cost-cutting system of management into play. Savings and thrift should be encouraged with proper incentives.

In connection with the excessive consumption of gasoline and diesel fuel in agriculture (we are all aware in what difficult conditions the harvest took place), special attention must be focused on the consumption of motor fuel. A substantial improvement in this area could be achieved through utilizing gas engines. However, this sphere is developing sluggishly and the implementation of the measures adopted is poor. Filling stations for gas-powered vehicles are being used to only one-third of their capacity. The Ministry of the Gas Industry and local soviets are not displaying the necessary activeness. Meanwhile the conversion of engines to gas is one of the most important ways of balancing the national economy's requirement for motor fuel. This work is no less important for improving environmental conditions, especially in major cities.

Comrade deputies. Preparations for the winter are at the focus of attention of the standing organs of the USSR Council of Ministers and the Gossnab. As you know this question has been discussed recently by the CPSU Central Committee Secretariat. The Central Committee has made it incumbent on party organizations and all departments at central and local level to adopt additional measures to ensure the completion of all preparations for the winter. The state of readiness of the national economy for the winter was discussed exhaustively by the USSR Supreme Soviet standing commissions on the eve of the session.

Ensuring the steady functioning of the national economy, and above all of social sphere facilities, is a crucial part of the national economy's readiness for the winter, of the implementation of the outlined practical measures for the radical restructuring of the economy, and of the successful fulfillment of the pledges adopted by labor collectives. It is also a fundamental precondition of success in 1988, the national economic plan for which has just been approved by the session.

It is important not to waste any time. The preparations for the winter concern us all and therefore they are a matter for each one of us. Only by joining forces, by paying attention to everything, even to trifles, will we be able to "come to terms" with the winter in houses and at factories and weather the cold period without slowing down the pace of life and production, without detracting from it. (Applause).

Maslennikov Coreport

PM231140 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 21 Oct 87 Morning Edition pp 2-3

["Coreport of the Plan and Budget Commission and Other Commissions of the Soviet of Nationalities," delivered by Deputy N.I. Maslennikov, chairman of the Plan and Budget Commission, at 19 October afternoon session of Soviet of Nationalities: "On the State Plan for the Economic and Social Development of the USSR for 1988, Progress in Fulfilling the State Plan for the Economic and Social Development of the USSR in 1987, the USSR State Budget for 1988, and the Implementation of the USSR State Budget in 1986"]

[Text] Comrade deputies! The current USSR Supreme Soviet session should go down in the annals of our state as an event designed to put the program for a radical restructuring of management of the national economy onto a footing of specific targets. In this respect the 1988 plan that is to be adopted is in many ways, in terms of its nature and content, innovative and marks a crucial stage in the country's development.

As we approach the jubilee, the 70th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution, working people and all the Soviet people seek to greet the glorious date worthily, with new production successes and labor achievements. As was noted in Comrade N.V. Talyzin's report, this year the national economy is developing dynamically, in accordance with the main 5-year plan targets. The work of the fuel and energy and metallurgical complexes has improved somewhat. The implementation of the country's Food Program has continued,

with particularly marked progress in livestock raising. There have been positive developments in capital construction. Measures are being adopted to accelerate the development of the material and technical base for the social sphere.

The standing commissions of the Soviet of Nationalities together with the standing commissions of the Soviet of the Union, on the instructions of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, carried out a preliminary examination of the State Plan for the Economic and Social Development of the USSR and USSR State Budget for 1988, analyzed progress in fulfilling this year's plan targets and the implementation of the budget in 1986, and prepared the conclusions which, comrade deputies, you have at your disposal. In the course of the assessment of the current situation in the country's national economy, it emerged clearly in the commissions that new shoots are springing up ever more confidently in the economy. All the same, there remain many factors hampering energetic progress. In certain sectors this is having a negative effect on the pace and stability of production. Difficulties are occurring in introducing elements of the new economic mechanism, the restructuring of the cadres' own consciousness is still proceeding extremely slowly, and order and discipline have become slack in a number of sectors.

At the recent meetings with the working people of Leningrad and Murmansk Oblast Comrade M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, stressed that changes are taking place in our economy, but there has yet to be a breakthrough. Society is embarking on a crucial stage of the restructuring.

It is noted in the commissions' conclusions that the 1988 plan as a whole accords with the economic strategy elaborated by the 27th party congress and the instructions of the CPSU Central Committee January and June (1987) Plenums, provides for the attainment of the 5-year plan targets in the main general economic indicators, and is oriented toward further improving the quality of economic growth and implementing a strong social policy. The plan is presented in a radically new structure, one of the main components of which is the state order; the plan is to a significant extent freed from secondary indicators and targets, is based on normative approaches, and is oriented toward an active switch to economic methods of management. The deputies emphasized that turning the enterprises into active participants in planning will make it possible more fully to uncover the economy's potential and to boost the creative energy of labor collectives and all working people as true masters of the people's property, with an interest in efficient production management.

It should also be noted that the implementation of the plan will take place in conjunction with a significant stepping up of the role and responsibility of republican organs and local soviets of people's deputies as regards the comprehensive socioeconomic development of their territories.

In the course of examination of the plan the commissions discovered potential for increasing the production and sale of consumer goods to the tune of a total of R159.4 million at retail prices, and propose the ratification of the plan for 1988 with these amendments.

The USSR State Budget for 1988 ensures the concentration of financial resources in key avenues of the country's socioeconomic development and provides for the implementation of measures to improve the Soviet people's material and cultural standard of living and maintain the country's defense might at the necessary level. It incorporates the union republics' state budgets, at a total sum of R200,549 million.

Taking into account the amendments to the plan and also the more precise calculations on certain sources of income, the commissions propose increasing the USSR State Budget income by R153.6 million. Attaching great significance to strengthening the material and technical base of the sociocultural sphere, the commissions consider it expedient to channel the additional income identified into increasing budget expenditure on the capital repair of buildings used by health care institutions and rural cultural enlightenment institutions, the acquisition of equipment and tools and the capital repair of general educational schools in rural localities and residential homes for the elderly and disabled, and the provision of amenities in cities, workers' settlements, and rural rayon centers.

It is proposed that these appropriations be distributed among the union republics' budgets as follows:

	(thousand rubles)
RSFSR	78,840
Ukrainian SSR	27,330
Belorussian SSR	8,340
Uzbek SSR	7,940
Kazakh SSR	9,140
Georgian SSR	3,580
Azerbaijan SSR	4,040
Lithuanian SSR	1,445
Moldavian SSR	2,140
Latvian SSR	1,610
Kirghiz SSR	1,950
Tajik SSR	2,260
Armenian SSR	1,600
Turkmen SSR	2,325
Estonian SSR	1,060

Taking into account the amendments noted, it is proposed that the USSR State Budget for 1988 be ratified, with income and expenditure in the sum of R443,645,321,000.

The commissions also examined the Report on the Implementation of the USSR State Budget in 1986, and propose that it be ratified in the sums submitted by the USSR Government.

Comrade deputies! I would like to note certain features of the work on the preliminary examination of the 1988 plan and budget. The implementation of measures to radically restructure the management of the country's economy means resolving in practice the task of ensuring the best possible combination of sector and territorial aspects of development. Therefore considerably more attention was devoted to the analysis of intersector and territorial proportions and to determining the correct choice of priorities in the sectors and regions. In this connection it was noted that in some spheres there are certain failures of coordination and linkage, and the plan and budget are balanced only with great strain.

The deputies gave a principled assessment of negative phenomena and stagnation in the work of a number of ministries, departments, and union republics, and complacency and parasitism were resolutely rebuffed. The criticism of shortcomings was constructive in nature and was aimed at seeking real ways of resolving the tasks of the transitional period and drawing up practical proposals and recommendations.

Allow me to dwell on certain questions which are, in our view, of great significance in ensuring the successful fulfillment of plan targets.

Particular attention was devoted to mobilizing underlying factors for increasing production efficiency on the basis of all-around intensification, the acceleration of scientific and technical progress, the maximum utilization of the potential created, and the improvement of work quality. Here it was taken into account that from next year enterprises and associations producing more than 60 % of all industrial output will go over to the principles of full economic accountability and self-financing.

It was stressed with great concern that the preparations for the USSR Law "On the State Enterprise (Association)" to come into force are not yet proceeding with due activeness everywhere. Economic work is being restructured only slowly and a reliable financial base for the activity of the labor collectives in the new conditions is not being created. Thus one in four enterprises in industry fails to meet targets for the reduction of prime cost of output. Nonproduction expenditure and losses are a heavy burden on the economy. As a result many enterprises work with interruptions and low profitability. There are still many loss-making enterprises. In industry there are more than 4,000 of them, and in agriculture more than 6,500. In consumer services one in four enterprises works at a loss. The number in state trade and consumer cooperatives is increasing. Yet certain union ministries and departments and union republic councils of ministers, instead of bringing into play their vast internal reserves, are still making additional demands for the allocation of funds from the state budget.

The commissions suggested that the permanent organs of the USSR Council of Ministers, ministries and departments, and union republic councils of ministers implement urgent measures to improve the economy and devote priority attention to the rational utilization of material and financial resources, the accelerated introduction of the cost-cutting mechanism, and the strengthening of discipline in payments and accounting.

In the course of the preliminary examination of the plan the main emphasis was on the analysis of problems of the development of industry, and first and foremost the machine building complex. The reasons for the laggardness in this complex and the slow renewal of output, which holds back the pace of modernization of other sectors, were analyzed in depth. It was noted that many machine building enterprises in the RSFSR, the Lithuanian SSR, and a number of union republics are not fulfilling contractual commitments. Deliveries of equipment even within the complex itself are disrupted in some spheres. Nor can it be tolerated that the time taken to create and assimilate new equipment is not being reduced, and the return on the introduction of scientific developments is falling. Its level is low at the USSR Ministries of Machine Building for Light and Food Industry and Household Appliances, of Construction, Road, and Municipal Machine Building, and of the Automotive Industry.

In this connection the deputies noted that in the conditions of the introduction of the new economic mechanism, relations between sector science and production change radically. Enterprises will now pay scientists not for an anticipated or hypothetical saving, but only for a real and tangible saving for the labor collectives. It was stressed in the commissions that it is necessary persistently to introduce improved links between science and production and to seek effective levers for stepping up the enterprises' receptiveness toward scientific and technical achievements.

The USSR Council of Ministers Bureau for Machine Building and ministries in the machine building complex must lead machine building out of this phase of hitches as quickly as possible. Today no deviations from the planned program for its retooling are permissible.

It was noted at the commissions' sessions that many major shortcomings in the resolution of key tasks in the national economy are directly associated with omissions in capital construction. Targets for the commissioning of production capacities go unfulfilled in virtually all the all-union ministries and union republic construction ministries. In the first 9 months of this year, of the 548 projects due for commissioning, only 337 were handed over.

Many unresolved problems have accumulated in rural construction. In a number of cases there has only been a formal amalgamation of state and interfarm construction organizations, with the result that the proper results have not been achieved. The USSR Gosagroprom [State Agro-Industrial Committee] systematically fails to fulfill plans for the commissioning of fixed capital.

Insufficient use is being made of leading forms of organization of construction work. Fewer than one-fourth of construction workers work on a collective contract basis. The transition to normative time limits for the construction of projects is being implemented only slowly.

An effective resource-saving mechanism has not been set up. The construction ministries of the Armenian, Lithuanian, and Kazakh SSR's are failing to meet targets for saving cement. Despite the acute shortage of rolled ferrous metal resources, above-norm stocks in the construction industry are increasing, and amount to some 1 million tonnes, or more than half the annual norm. There is a similar situation with ferroconcrete structures.

The state of affairs with the construction of facilities in the social sphere was analyzed searchingly. It was noted that the organizing role of the USSR Council of Ministers Bureau for Social Development is not yet making sufficient impact. There was a serious reproach for many union republic councils of ministers for their considerable laggardness in fulfilling the current year's plans for commissioning housing and children's preschool institutions. Particular mention was made of laggardness in housing construction and the capital repair, reconstruction, and modernization of apartment blocks in the Estonian, Moldavian, and Tajik SSR's. Five union republics failed to meet 9-month targets for the construction of schools, and seven failed to meet targets for vocational and technical schools. The quality of construction is improving only slowly, and the planning of cities and other settlements is not always carried out on a comprehensive basis.

The commissions drew attention to the fact that insufficient use is made of the potential of large-panel prefabricated housing construction in the Azerbaijan, Kirghiz, and Turkmen SSR's. According to specialists' calculations, solely by means of switching the country's prefabricated housing combines onto a three-shift or continuous work system it would be possible to increase the production of housing components by at least 20 %, which would make it possible additionally to build and commission more than 200,000 new apartments.

The increase in the volumes of housing construction is inextricably linked to the accelerated development of municipal services. The 1988 plan provides for a marked increase in capital investments for these purposes. It is now a matter of using them correctly. It was stressed that hitherto targets for the commissioning of heat and water supply facilities and sewerage systems have been chronically disrupted. The commissions demanded that the republican management organs impose due order in this matter in the localities. After all, it cannot be acceptable today for housing to be commissioned without amenities, and for interruptions to occur in the winter period in the supply of fuel, heat, water, and electricity to the population.

The problem of satisfying the demand for sanitation equipment, wallpaper, paint, varnish, and construction materials and also the range and quality of these products remains a bottleneck in housing construction. The base for the production of local construction materials is developing only poorly and production waste and secondary resources are poorly utilized. Some 40 % of bricks and half the lime destined for sale to the population are not up to state standards, according to investigations.

The deputies stressed that these questions must be resolved on two fronts—through the Gosplan and locally. The union republic Councils of Ministers could do much on this score. It is necessary to tackle these questions more energetically.

Comrade deputies! In the course of preliminary examination of the plan and budget keen attention was paid to seeking ways to accelerate the resolution of the food problem. The commissions worked on the basis that the supply of food products to the population should be based first and foremost on the maximum utilization of local resources and potential and the intensive development of their own agro-industrial base. It is necessary to bring fully into play the reserves inherent in personal plots, collective fruit and vegetable growing, and enterprises' subsidiary farms.

The deputies' commissions raised urgently the question of overcoming laggardness in the development of capacities for the processing, transportation, and storage of agricultural products. It was noted that the necessary attention is not yet being devoted to these questions and insufficient use is made of the advantages offered by integrating all components of the food conveyor in a single organ. In particular, a number of questions of providing incentives to farms for the production of high quality products have not been resolved. Despite the acute shortage of capacities for the storage of potatoes, vegetables, and fruit, plans for their commissioning are not being fulfilled in the Turkmen SSR, the Georgian SSR, and the Moldavian SSR. Progressive means of storing and processing agricultural produce are being introduced too slowly.

The unsatisfactory state of the starch syrup industry is a graphic example of neglect in this sphere. Half the potato processing plants are located in old premises which are in a parlous state. The conditions for potato storage scarcely exist, and up to one-fourth of them often arrive in an unsuitable condition. As a result in the last two 5-year plans capacities for the production of potato starch have fallen by 40 % and those that exist are poorly

utilized. Meanwhile trade orders for this starch are less than one-third fulfilled. Things have reached the point where they have started buying it from abroad, and yet we rank first in the world in potato production.

At the CPSU Central Committee conference held on 17 October this year, the tasks of accelerating the development of processing sectors of the agro-industrial complex were discussed. It was noted that they must be resolved without delay.

The deputies cited numerous examples where the introduction of economic accountability and the collective and family contract increases efficiency in the utilization of equipment and reduces requirements for equipment. At the same time there is not particularly rapid restructuring taking place in sales and supply organizations of the USSR Gosagroprom, which not infrequently order machinery from industry and ship it in without taking account of the farms' real needs, and then impose it on them. Thus the number of unsold "Kolos" combines at the committee's bases has reached the equivalent of an annual plan for their production. So it turns out that outwardly the situation is highly favorable and the availability of equipment is increasing, yet in practice we have the same old diktat of producer over consumer.

In the new conditions it is necessary more promptly to restructure the system of machinery supplies to kolkhozes and sovkhozes, and the USSR Gosagroprom and the USSR Ministry of Tractor and Agricultural Machine Building must take energetic measures to this end. Agro-industrial organs should build more principled relations with the machine builders, and not cover up their faults.

The commissions also focused attention on the problem of improving land utilization and conservation. The ministries, and first and foremost the USSR Ministry of Nonferrous Metallurgy, the USSR Ministry of the Coal Industry, and the USSR Ministry of the Construction Materials Industry, have slackened their attention to questions of restoring damaged land. Estimates say that there is of the order of 2 million hectares of such land in the country. Yet targets for the recultivation of land are too low, and at best make up for the annual loss of land. With few exceptions, the work is done to a low standard, and as a result substantial state resources are often spent for nothing and irremediable damage is done to land resources. This approach cannot be tolerated. It is necessary to tackle this problem in a proprietorial, state-minded manner and to restore life to these lands more rapidly.

The commissions noted specific avenues of the stepping up of organizational work by union republic councils of ministers and local soviets in the fulfillment of the Comprehensive Program on Goods and Services. They have all the rights they need to do this now. These rights must at last be really utilized so as to ensure that in the territories under their jurisdiction all enterprises are involved in producing goods and offering services to the population.

It was noted with concern that the development of light industry has slowed down this year. There is substantial laggardness in fulfilling contractual commitments in the Tajik and Uzbek SSR's. Poor use is made of internal production reserves and due attention is not paid to resource-saving. The materials-intensiveness of the main groups of textiles and knitted goods in our country is 20-30 % higher than the equivalent abroad.

Light industry, the commissions stressed, needs substantial assistance. Especially in the supply of machines, chemical fibers and yarns, and dyes. Estimates state that solely because of the USSR Ministry of Machine Building for Light and Food Industry and Household Appliances' failure to supply this sector with the necessary equipment, in the first 2 years of the current 5-year plan the population will fail to receive consumer goods totaling more than R1 billion.

The USSR Gosplan, USSR Gossnab, USSR Ministry of Machine Building for Light and Food Industry and Household Appliances, and USSR Ministry of the Chemical Industry are instructed to give light industry the necessary help. Without this, there can be no particular breakthrough.

Enormous tasks have to be resolved in developing the service sphere. Here the existing reserves are still only poorly brought into play. Targets for the sale of paid services are not fulfilled by the majority of union republics, which indicates inattentiveness to these questions on the part of the union republic councils of ministers and local soviets.

Consumer services lag seriously behind in rural localities. The inhabitants of more than one-half of the settlements cannot obtain the necessary consumer services locally. Kolkhozes and sovkhozes could make a considerably greater contribution to the resolution of these questions, above all in giving assistance to the population in the tilling of garden plots, the repair and construction of housing, and the transportation and processing of agricultural produce.

The deputies stated with particular exactingness that it is high time to achieve marked progress in the quality of consumer services. The latest surveys show that one in three of those polled is not satisfied with the activity of service enterprises. Their timetables do not suit many people—the vast majority of reception centers are still operating only one shift. The number of complaints from the population about the low standard of services is not getting any less. Republican organs and local soviets are advised to strengthen leadership of the service sphere and restructure its work on the basis of people's urgent needs.

It was noted at the sessions that there is considerable potential for filling the market with goods and services by developing cooperative and individual labor activity. The commissions have studied the state of affairs in the localities. It appears that many soviet ispolkoms confine their work to issuing patents and licenses, while there is no evidence of real support in setting up these forms of labor organization. In the Latvian, Ukrainian, and Armenian SSR's the necessary assistance is not given to cooperatives in allocating premises, equipment, transport, and raw materials, and pensioners and students are not sufficiently involved in individual labor activity. Soviet organs should more rapidly take up the position of highly committed and exacting organizers of work to implement the USSR Law on Individual Labor Activity.

An analysis of the indicators of the development of health care was closely linked with the discussion of the draft Basic Guidelines for the Development of Health Care for the Population and the Restructuring of the USSR Health Service. The commissions stressed that along with the strengthening of this sphere's material and technical base and the improvement of the quality of medical services, more attention must be devoted to developing physical culture and sport and implementing health improvement measures.

It was noted that some 4 million people a day do not go to work because of sickness, and more than R7 billion a year is spent on paying grants to them. Yet where physical culture and health improvement work is at a high standard, losses from sickness are significantly lower, the mood at work is better, and labor productivity is higher. It was concluded that republican and local organs must step up work to develop a healthy way of life, promote the development of physical culture and sport, and use the resources of the enterprises themselves, as well as those of the population, more widely for these purposes.

Comrades! The deputies devoted substantial attention to an analysis of the state of the budgets of the union republics. It was stressed that in present conditions the forming of budgets will take place largely in a new way, and therefore maximum reliance should be placed on local resources and potential and the republics' own sources of accumulation. At the same time there is still a strong orientation toward obtaining nonreturnable funds from the state, and a number of soviet and economic organs show a poor sense of responsibility for ensuring the balance of republican and local budgets, the timely receipt of income, and the rational utilization of resources. The RSFSR, the Georgian SSR, and the Azerbaijan SSR are not ensuring the fulfillment of the plan for the income section of the budget. Union republic Councils of Ministers are instructed to be more energetic in restructuring the financial system fully in line with the new economic management conditions, while the USSR Ministry of Finance should persistently implement measures to increase the effectiveness of the financial mechanism.

During the examination of the plan and budget, progress was examined in fulfilling the voters' instructions whose implementation is envisaged during the term of the USSR Supreme Soviet 11th convocation. The commissions noted that USSR ministries and departments have found potential for incorporating many of the instructions in the plans. At the same time there is as yet no efficient system for work with instructions at many sector headquarters, in particular the USSR Ministries of the Gas Industry and of the Medical and Microbiological Industry. Effective monitoring of their implementation has not been set up.

It is impermissible for the implementation of such important matters as the acceleration of the modernization and retooling of enterprises, the construction of sociocultural and consumer facilities, and the development of subsidiary farms, especially those requiring minimal expenditure, to be postponed to a later date without justification. There was sharp criticism of those leaders of ministries and departments who, instead of adopting concrete measures, seek all kinds of excuses or try to shift the responsibility for fulfilling instructions onto other people's shoulders, or simply to tie things up with red tape.

State organs both centrally and locally are advised radically to restructure work with the voters' instructions and to make more active use of this powerful potential energy which comes directly from people, from their needs and concerns.

Comrade deputies! The fulfillment of the 1988 plan and budget targets approved at the present session will take place during a period in which Soviet society enters a decisive stage in the restructuring, under the influence of that major event in the country's life, the preparation and holding of the 19th All-Union Party Conference.

The commissions express confidence that the labor collectives will concentrate all their efforts on ensuring unconditional fulfillment of plan targets and make a worthy contribution to accelerating the country's economic and social progress. (Applause.)

Government Decree on Research Organizations

LD221509 Moscow TASS in English 1412 GMT 22 Oct 87

[Text] Moscow October 22 TASS—The CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers have passed a decision on placing research organizations on the full economic self-supporting and self-financing scheme.

The decision notes that the consistent implementation of the policy of the 27th party congress of accelerating socio-economic development calls for an all-round

build-up of the rates and maximum use of the achievements of progress in science and technology, a fundamental restructuring of the activities of research, design, projecting and technological organizations.

The scientific-technical potential created in this country which makes it possible to resolve big national economic tasks is not used effectively enough, the decision says. There is a lag in a number of most important scientific areas, the priority development of science and technology with due regard for the scientific-technical revolution currently under way in the world is not ensured. The methods of administration of research organizations are chiefly obsolete based chiefly on administration and management by decree. Economic approach to the administration of science is not applied.

The CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers consider it necessary to effect transition to full cost-accounting and self-financing of research, projecting, design and technological organizations. They must carry out their activities in accordance with the provisions of the USSR on state enterprise. Paramount attention in the decision is devoted to strengthening the ties of science with production, of directly including research personnel in work over the whole cycle of scientific research and development—production—sale—servicing.

The decision determines the main principles of economic activities by research organizations. They are socialist commodity producers and are to ensure their scientific-technical and social development through the funds earned from the sale of their achievements to the consumers.

New Press Center To Open in Moscow 26 Oct

LD221632 Moscow TASS in English 1608 GMT 22 Oct 87

[Text] Moscow October 22 TASS—A press center is to be established here in connection with the 70th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution. It will be functioning on the Zubovskiy Boulevard, 4. This was reported to a TASS correspondent by Press Center Director Nikolay Shishlin. The press centre is to open on Monday, October 26, at 11.00, Moscow time [0300 GMT].

The press center's program includes journalists' meetings with Soviet politicians and public figures, scientists. If foreign guests request a meeting with journalists, they will be granted such a possibility.

A live broadcast of the celebration meeting, devoted to the 70th anniversary of the Great October Revolution, will be arranged at the press center. In short, the task of the press center is to give assistance to mass media workers in providing a coverage of the remarkable jubilee in the life of the country, said Nikolay Shishlin.

Solovyev Opens New Revolution Exhibition

PM221013 Leningrad LENINGRADSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 3 Oct 87 pp 1, 4

[L. Ostrovskiy "On the Spot Reportage": "Bells Toll Again on the *Avrora*"]

[Excerpts] Leningraders were pleased to hear the news, broadcast on the radio yesterday morning, that a new museum exhibition would open to visitors on board the cruiser *Avrora*. After all, for us all the *Avrora* is not just one of our beloved city's sights, a relic of its revolutionary history, or even just a monument—it is a living symbol of Leningrad's traditions. They, these living traditions, are like roots nurturing the lives of entire generations. [passage omitted]

Naval seamen formed in line in front of the cruiser. People in an endless stream were making their way to the embankment. The ship's metal shone in the sunshine, unusually generous on this day. The dressing flags fluttered in the Neva breeze. The orchestra rang out.

The festive ceremony was attended by Yu.F. Solovyev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Leningrad Obkom; Obkom Bureau members A.N. Gerasimov, A.Ya. Degtyarev, I.V. Zakharov, A.V. Pavlov, N.I. Popov, D.N. Filippov, and V.Ya. Khodyrev; and Leningrad Gorkom Secretaries O.A. Ignatov and V.N. Krikhunov.

...The music died away, and the long-awaited "Now hear this!" echoed. Yu.F. Solovyev approached the microphone. He expressed heartfelt gratitude to the shipbuilding workers from the A.A. Zhdanov Plant, the working people from all the enterprises that took part in the repair and restoration of the *Avrora*, and the historians, museum workers, and designers who renovated and enriched the exhibition on board the ship. Now people in their thousands will come here for outings, for veterans meetings, and for rallies and festive parades by young pioneers and young people.

Now, Yu.F. Solovyev said, when Soviet people have embarked on the restructuring of our society's life which is a direct continuation of the cause of October, it is very important to constantly keep in step with Lenin and the ideals of the revolution. We must adopt a particularly caring and solicitous attitude to everything linked with events in 1917 which inspire generations of Soviet people to new accomplishments for the greater glory of the motherland. [passage omitted]

Yu.F. Solovyev declared the new museum exhibition on board the cruiser open. The solemn strains of the National Anthem of the Soviet Union were joined by festive salvos from the *Avrora*'s guns. The USSR Navy's Ship No. 1 is again in the combat ranks!

Its crew cordially welcomed the first visitors. Party, labor, and Armed Forces veterans were joined by members of the Bureaus and secretaries of the CPSU Obkom and Gorkom, front-ranking working people from Leningrad's enterprises, figures from science and culture, and young servicemen to view the historical relics. They were photographed with the cruiser's crew and wrote their remarks in the Guests of Honor Book. [passage omitted]

Addresses Veterans

LD201059 Leningrad Domestic Service in Russian 0430 GMT 17 Oct 87

[Excerpts] Just a few days now separate us from a historic date, the 70th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution. It is extremely important to use the priceless experience of the older generations of revolutionaries, Bolsheviks and Leninists to maximum advantage for the cause and to resolve the concrete problems of our times.

There was a meeting yesterday in Smolnyy in which participants in the Great October Socialist Revolution and the Civil and Patriotic Wars took part along with shock workers of the first 5-year periods and the postwar revival.

Opening the meeting, Yuriy Filippovich Solovyev, candidate member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and obkom first secretary, stressed that the implementation of the line toward acceleration which has been formulated is the logical continuation of the socialist revolution and a test of the ability of socialism to resolve quickly and dynamically the problem of developing the material and technical base of the national economy and implement the principle of social justice and assimilate all the wealth of cultural assets. [passage omitted]

Comrade Solovyev addressed the meeting. In describing the current situation in Leningrad city and oblast he noted that the process of democratization is confidently gathering strength, including in production management. Public opinion is making itself heard distinctly and weightily. The offensive against excessive bureaucracy and high-handed and arbitrary economic management is expanding. The qualitative renewal of cadres is taking place.

At the same time, the speaker stressed, it should be said that there are still quite a lot of problems and factors which hold up the acceleration process along the road of profound changes. One of the most important tasks, stressed Comrade Solovyev, is to complete preparation for the USSR Law on State Enterprises to be brought into effect.

Yuriy Filippovich Solovyev warmly thanked the party, war and labor veterans for their fruitful social and political work on educating young people and all the working people in revolutionary, combat, and labor traditions of the Soviet people and wished them good health, happiness and new successes in their noble activity. [passage omitted]

Shcherbitskiy Attends Council of Ministers

AU200846 Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian 13 Oct 87 p 1

[Unattributed Report: "In the Ukrainian Council of Ministers"]

[Text] On 12 October the Ukrainian Council of Ministers held a session to examine the 1988 state plan for the economic and social development of the Ukrainian SSR, and the 1988 state budget of the Ukrainian SSR.

It was noted that the 1988 plan and budget were drafted in line with the decisions of the 27th party congress and the June 1987 CPSU Central Committee Plenum, as well as of the 27th Ukrainian Communist Party Congress and the July 1987 Plenum of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee, on the basis of the targets set for the 12th 5-year period, and in accordance with the USSR Law on the State Enterprise (Association). The objective of the draft plan is to further raise the efficiency of the republic's national economy, to ensure that its development is well balanced, to more rapidly increase the production potential and to make a maximum use of it, and to perfect the structure of communal production, branch and inter-branch proportions; it also calls for creating the conditions necessary to consolidate the principles of full economic accountability and self-financing, and to combine the planning principles with wide participation by labor collectives in economic management; calls for ensuring the economic independence of management links, and for expanding democratic bases for the organization of production activity.

The social bent of the plan has strengthened. Compared with the 5-year plan, the draft plan has set higher targets for the production of consumer goods and for the development of services. It has increased capital investments for expanding housing construction, and has provided possibilities to further strengthen the material base of the social sphere.

The tasks envisaged in the draft are based on the wide application of the achievements of scientific-technological progress and advanced experience; on fuller use of intensive economic development factors and of the possibilities to hasten the development of communal production; and on the changeover to economic management methods which will make it possible to raise labor productivity, to further reduce prime costs, and at the same time to improve the quality of goods and works, and to increase profits.

Particular importance has been attached to radical improvements in the utilization of all kinds of resources, and to the new economic mechanism which has to be made operational everywhere in order to intensify the economic policy and to raise economic effectiveness.

The objective of the draft 1988 state budget of the Ukrainian SSR is to meet the current requirements for an increased economic effectiveness, and to concentrate financial resources on the crucial sectors of socioeconomic development.

The Ukrainian Council of Ministers has for the most part endorsed the draft 1988 plan and budget, and adopted the decision to submit them to the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet for an examination at its forthcoming session.

The Ukrainian Council of Ministers has obligated the republic's ministries, departments, oblispolkoms, and gorispolkoms to see to it that enterprises and organizations under their jurisdiction conclude economic agreements as soon as possible on the supply of products, on the performance of works, and on rendering services; to invigorate preparations for switching most enterprises, as of 1 January 1988, over to full economic accountability and autonomous financing; and to hasten the elaboration and endorsement of economic standards for these enterprises. Emphasis was put on the importance of tightening plan discipline, of strictly observing contracted obligations, of improving the quality of products, of increasing the production of consumer goods, particularly services to the population, and of expanding their variety.

It was pointed out at the session that the results of the work in the current year would be of great determinant importance for the success in fulfilling the 1988 plan.

The Ukrainian Council of Ministers has requested the republic's ministries, departments, oblispolkoms and gorispolkoms to markedly raise the level of organizational work, to overcome the lag incurred in a number of branches, and to ensure that the tasks set for 1987 and the socialist pledges assumed in honor of the 70th anniversary of the Great October are accomplished.

V.V. Shcherbitskiy, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee first secretary, participated in the session proceedings and delivered a speech.

The session was addressed by V.A. Masol, Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo member and Council of Ministers chairman.

The session was attended by V.A. Sologub, Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo member and Trade Unions Council chairman; and S.I. Gurenko, Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo candidate member and secretary.

Lithuanian Priest Freed From Siberian Prison

LD210614 Vatican City International Service in German 1500 GMT 20 Oct

[Text] Moscow: The Lithuanian Catholic Priest Jonas Matulionis was released in the last few days from imprisonment in Siberia in a poor state of health. The human rights activist Aleksandr Ogorodnikov announced this in a telephone interview with the West. Jonas Matulionis was sentenced to 3 years in a labor camp in 1984 for celebrating the eucharist without permission.

Religious Freedom in Kazakhstan Touted

LD230344 Moscow TASS in English 2227 GMT 22 Oct 87

[Text] Tselinograd October 22 TASS—TASS special correspondents Lev Axenov and Omirbek Erkimbayev report:

There are 16 various religious confessions in Kazakhstan. Citizens of the German nationality are represented in nine of them (about a million Germans live in this republic or about 50 percent of the total number of Soviet citizens of the German nationality). Two confessions—Mennonites and Lutherans—are purely German in their composition. All the believers fully enjoy the right to the freedom of conscience. The state does not interfere in the life of religious communities, granting them all opportunities for operation in line with Soviet legislation.

"I have never been infringed upon during my entire long life (I have worked for 43 years at my job and have government decorations) whether due to my nationality or due to my religious convictions," Rudolf Mann, pastor of the Lutheran community of Tselinograd (northern Kazakhstan), told TASS. "My four children have not been infringed upon either. They are already adults. All have specialized secondary education and have interesting jobs.

"There are some 300 believers in the community, including people of various age," he went on to say. "I can say on their behalf: Nobody has been subjected to any persecution. The community bought the prayer house in 1956, then it was repaired and enlarged.

"We conduct divine services every Sunday and perform confirmation rites in line with traditions," said the pastor. "We have very good business contacts with representatives of the local authorities and with the representatives of the local authorities and with the representative of the Council for Religious Affairs at the USSR Council of Ministers for Tselinograd. Our believers are adequately provided with theological literature."

Touching on the knowledge of the German language, the pastor said: "Indeed, it happens that young people have a poor command of the language, but they are to blame for this, as well as we people of the older generation,

parents. It is out of question that the authorities interfere in studies of the German language or in its use. Well, this happens abroad too. I know, for instance, that Germans living in Canada, know English much better than their native tongue."

During the conversation Pastor Mann quoted a pronouncement by Gunnar Stolset, doctor of theology, secretary general of the Lutheran World Federation (Geneva), who had visited Tselinograd last summer. Summing up his impressions the leader of this prestigeous international organization said: "We have got convinced that our German co-believers living in Kazakhstan are even stricter than we in the West in performing their religious rites. Nobody interferes with them in their religious affairs".

World War II Nazi Accomplice To Be Shot

LD191735 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1620 GMT 19 Oct 87

[Text] Kiev, 19 Oct (TASS)—The trial of Ivan Goncharuk, formerly an accomplice of the Nazis during World War II, has ended in Kamen-Kashirskiy, Volyn Oblast, Ukraine. The court established his guilt and sentenced the murderer to the exceptional measure of punishment—to be shot. The packed courtroom heard the just sentence with approval.

The treacherous career of Goncharuk, who joined the rebel army of Ukrainian bourgeois nationalists (UPA) in summer 1944, was cut short at the end of the next year when one gang was wiped out. But he managed to conceal his terrible crimes from justice. This reduced his punishment. After serving a sentence, Goncharuk took cover far away from the places where he perpetrated his black deeds. But he was recognized, and fresh evidence of the henchman's evil-doing was presented. The trial reconfirmed that the UPA, created on orders from the Nazis, and which some people in the West now try to whitewash, always and everywhere had just one purpose—to serve the interests of Hitlerite fascism.

At the trial, which lasted nearly a week, about 50 victims and witnesses asserted that murder, torture, arson and robbery were routine "work" for the criminal. The foundation for irrefutable proof was provided by testimony of witnesses and eyewitnesses, expert reports, and the exhumation of remains.

"The sentence, passed in the name of the people, is in no way seen as revenge," State Prosecutor Pavel Dumalo, first deputy procurator of Volyn Oblast, said at the trial. "It is a sacred duty to the victims of fascism, one which will not be finally fulfilled until all Nazi criminals who are still in hiding come before the court." Among them Pavel Dumalo named Sergey Kovalchuk, former deputy chief of police in Lyuboml, who for a long time hid in the United States, and who recently travelled sately to Paraquay with the permission of the U.S. authorities. Former policeman Nikolay Zenyuk is hiding from justice in the United States. The bloody tracks of Sergey Panasyuk, a punitive soldier of the SS "Galichina" division, lead to the Canadian city of Toronto. Their names were heard repeatedly from those present at this trial. All working people of Volyn are of one opinion: Justice must be done to the henchmen, Pavel Dumalo stressed.

'Petty Intrigues' Around Vladimir Titov

LD211917 Moscow TASS in English 1806 GMT 21 Oct 87

[Text] Moscow October 21 TASS—TASS commentator Vladimir Burakov writes:

"I have never supplied any information to anybody that psychologically sick people are employed to build an oil pipeline. I believe that the use of my name in the Western press is a provocation which could be engineered only by very base and deceitful people." This is an extract from a statement made by Vladimir Titov to the procurator in the city of Kaluga in 1984. It is in glaring contradiction with what self-same Vladimir Titov told Western pressmen in Moscow today. Indeed, he was discharged from the lunatic asylum in the city of Orel on October 9. But he got there on the conclusion of an authritative medical commission in 1984 which replaced his prison term with forced medical treatment.

It happened so that Vladimir Titov spent virtually all his life either behind bars due to violations of various articles of the Criminal Code of the Russian Federation or at asylums. There are a lot of strange things in his behaviour. For instance, he convinced his patrons from a human rights group based in Frankfurt-am-Main that in the past he had been a lieutenant of... the state security service. However, it has been established exactly that he has never served in the security forces and was only a sailor of the Soviet Navy between July 21 and December 30, 1962. Incidentally, he was discharged from the Navy due to health reasons.

Today Titov was persuading Western pressmen that he was being deprived allegedly by force of the Soviet citizenship and was almost being deported from the Soviet Union. However, the branch of visas and registration of foreigners at the home affairs department of the Executive Committee of the Soviet of People's Deputies of the Kaluga Region has an application written by his own hand, requesting an exit visa from the Soviet Union.

The crux of the matter evidently lies not in the fact that Vladimir Titov is all too ready to hoodwink and slander anybody and anything. It is not important either whether he is guided by selfish interests or he lacks moral stability. Such people as Titov are a windfall for some quarters in the West which are in dire need of slanderers. Academician Georgiy Morozov, chairman of the USSR Scientific Society of Psychiatrists-Neuropathologists, said the following on this score: "It is extremely regrettable that there are people in some countries, including

the USA, who, pursuing their selfish and political aims, are seeking to discredit not only the Soviet psychiatry but this humane profession as a whole, looking for shady people who distort realities and are vociferating about false cases of human rights violations in the Soviet Union".

It would be beneficial for those who now arrange petty intrigues around Titov, to remember what happened to actor Boris Amarantov. He was useful to his Western patrons till he agreed to leave the Soviet Union. His disease deteriorated abroad. Later, when he returned to the Soviet Union several months ago, a tragedy happened: Boris Amarantov committed suicide during a fit of mental illness.

Action Taken on Resettled Families' Problems

PM221323 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 9 Oct 87 p 2

[Response to SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA articles by V. Buynovskiy, deputy chairman of the USSR State Committee for Labor and Social Problems, under the rubric "The Newspaper Spoke Out. What Has Been Done?": "Changes in Store for Resettled Families"—first paragraph is editorial introduction]

[Text] The USSR State Committee for Labor and Social Problems has examined the articles written by our special correspondent V. Cherkasov entitled "Resettled Families: Who Is Going?" and "Resettled Families: How Are They Being Received?" published in *Sotsialisticheskaya Industriya* on 14 and 15 August this year.

The writer of the articles has correctly noted serious shortcomings in the selection, location, job placement, and domestic arrangements made for families resettled on kolkhozes and sovkhozes in Amur Oblast.

Each year Amur Oblast receives more than 1,500 families resettled here under the plan. This represents a considerable addition to the scarce labor resources on the oblast's sovkhozes and kolkhozes. Most of the families sent settle down on the farms to which they are sent and work actively in arable farming, stockraising, construction, and other production sectors of the agro-industrial complex. However, the practice of resettlement has shown that this work is not as efficient as the times demand

This is primarily due to systematic underfulfillemnt of the resettlement construction plan, a sharp cut in the funds allocated for this purpose for prefabricated wooden houses, and failure to carry out the planned measures to develop the construction base. In 1981-1986, for example, Amur Oblast was 3,100 houses below its commissioning target for resettled families.

Checks carried out at local level and letters sent to the committee from resettled families indicate that there are still instances of callousness being shown by some leaders in meeting resettled families' immediate needs and a lack of appropriate responsibility by farms with regard to retaining the work force sent under the plan.

The USSR State Committee for Labor and Social Problems is now taking specific measures to increase the efficiency of family resettlement. Union republic state agro-industrial committees have been issued with instructions to immediately allocate for specified resettlement construction work sufficient standard houses, timber, and other materials from agro-industrial committee funds to meet the resettlement construction target. The USSR State Committee for Labor and Social Problems has instructed labor organs to examine cases of breaches of resettlement terms and take measures to regulate resettlement. Moreover, the committee has demanded that the USSR Health Ministry, the USSR Railways Ministry, the USSR Trade Ministry, the Tsentrosoyuz, and the USSR Education Ministry improve the medical and trade services provided for resettled families and the standard of transportation to their place of settlement.

The USSR State Committee for Labor and Social Problems is now drawing up with the USSR State Agro-Industrial Committee proposals for the USSR Council of Ministers on improving the legal, economic, and social basis of resettlement in the light of the provisions of the Law on the State Enterprise (Association).

'Superficial' View of Terrorism Chided

PM210901 [Editorial Report] Moscow *Komsomolskaya Pravda* in Russian on 6 October 1987 carries on page 2 under the rubric "Our Spiritual Values" a 2,600-word Ye. Losoto article responding to readers' complaints about an earlier article, entitled "Freedom," in which the writer defended the political murders committed by the 19th century "People's Will" (Narodnaya Volya) movement. Readers had apparently equated these actions with modern acts of terrorism such as aircraft hijackings, and had condemned both. Losoto rejects the equation, arguing that it takes "external, secondary detail as the main criterion" for evaluating events. He justifies the "People's Will's" 1881 assassination of Tsar Aleksandr II, an autocrat, while repudiating modern acts of terrorism whose victims are largely ordinary citizens. Losoto expresses surprise that readers should make such "superficial" comparisons, concluding that a "higher standard of education" in the country's revolutionary traditions and history is needed.

Butenko on Upcoming CPSU Conference

AU161806 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian30 Sep 87p 7

[Interview with Soviet political scientist Nikolay Butenko by Momcilo Djorgovic, BORBA special correspondent—date and place not given]

[Text] Moscow, Sep—To what extent will "perestroyka" [Russian word for "restructuring" used] change political life in Soviet society? Will anything change in party life itself? How will democratization be carried out in the party? Such were the questions we posed to Nikolay Butenko, a political scientist who belongs to those front-line people here who daily advocate the need for "perestroyka."

[Butenko] One cannot have successful restructuring without the restructuring of party organizations. Something should certainly be changed, but at the all-union party conference which should be held next year we will decide specifically what should be changed and how. We are convinced that the Leninist concept of the party should be renovated.

[Djorgovic] Has the not CPSU been a Leninist party until now as well?

[Butenko] Stalin's concept of the party has reigned in our country to this very day. During Lenin's life, the communist party was the organization of like-minded people who argued among themselves about the best solutions under certain political circumstances and who, at the same time, were prepared for the greatest sacrifices in the interest of the people. Although the party was underground, its discussions were democratic. After the October Revolution, the party opened discussion about the roads of building socialism.

At the July plenum, Mikhail Gorbachev also stated that this question has not been solved yet and that it is still being posed in the following form: How is one to find stimuli, on socialist foundations, so that the people build socialism and at the same time raise the social standard. By the way, Stalin introduced the theory of class struggle into the party, but he had violated it from the very beginning. The general secretary then became the most important figure, and all those who said they opposed his opinion were said to be factionalists and oppositionists. Once they were declared factionalists, it was easier to turn them into devils. The party was destroyed under the pretext of the struggle for democratic centralism and for its monolithic character, and a party of another kind was created.

I Do Not Believe That We All Think the Same [subhead]

[Djorgovic] What will now change so that the party will not have that kind of monolithic character? Will anything be changed in the basic mechanism of party organization—democratic centralism?

[Butenko] The principle of democratic centralism is one of the basic principles, and all communist parties have it. It has existed in our party since the beginning of the century, and when the party came to power it was adapted to the new situation. As a Communist and an expert, I am personally of the opinion that the old, pro-Stalinist form of party organization has led to the passivity of the members. There are no open and brave discussions. I think that it would be purposeful to do the following: Not one solution should be adopted by the party unless there are alternative proposals, and those solutions should be adopted by majority vote, not unanimously. Therefore, if we have two proposals, we then have both a majority and a minority. This, of course, applies for most important questions, not for every little thing.

[Djorgovic] What will be the consequences of this novelty for party life?

[Butenko] The Communists in our party have simply forgotten how to carry out discussions and how to start initiatives. These innovations would introduce new liveliness. On the other hand, the concepts of majority and minority which exist in the party statute would receive their practical side. I am not so naive as to think that all people think the same, even if they are Politburo members. I have just recalled an example: Khrushchev, for instance, was elected unanimously and then relieved of his duty, also unanimously. How is that possible? It is not possible that the entire Central Committee was of the same opinion.

[Djorgovic] One of the problems which accompany the lives of communist parties is sectarianism, which certainly has existed and still exists in your party as well. Will something also change in your party in that respect?

[Butenko] What is involved is that all Communists in all socialist countries recognize the leading role of the party in society. However, when the party starts to replace state organs, then it undermines and violates society's constitution. I think that the government should consist of both party and nonparty people. Whenever solutions are adopted by party organizations and not state organs, it means pushing all nonparty people to the margin of society. That is a form of sectarianism, and I think that this is too mild a word for such a practice. I think that 70 years after the revolution we must think about how to encompass the opinions of both party and nonparty people with the help of Soviet organs, or otherwise, if we continue to make decisions without nonparty people, we shall violate democracy.

Opponents and "Opponents" [subhead]

[Djorgovic] In what way will the party dissociate itself from some other political interests and ideological currents?

[Butenko] When we evaluate an ideological current as being revisionist, antisocialist, or opportunist, we must always ask ourselves from what positions we are doing so. Everyone looks revisionist when observed from dogmatic positions. Every new idea or new thought contradicts the dogma. If we take a wrong viewpoint, our assessments will also be wrong. If we have a correct position, then we shall see that there are, naturally,

opponents, conservative forces, and forces of stagnation. It was not dogmatists who invented the opponents of socialism, they really exist, but dogmatists consider friends of socialism to be opponents, too.

[Djorgovic] There is much discussion about "glasnost" in your country. What will be changed in the political organization of the party in order for the members to have more influence? Those changes which are talked about now nevertheless emanate from the hierarchy above, as they would in a monolithic organization?

[Butenko] There is no doubt that we need a united party, just as there is no doubt that there is no party-mindedness [partijnost] without "glasnost." "Glasnost" is not needed only for nonparty people. It is in fact the party members who need it most. Communists must be informed about everything that is happening in the party, as used to be the case in Lenin's time. And at that time the leadership did not contact the membership through announcements, because it knew that the membership consists of living people whose opinions differ. There was the possibility that even an ordinary member could express his stand. Now the Politburo informs us about the stands it has adopted, but we have no possibility of knowing about the positions the Politburo members held during the debate or about the arguments that were in play. And that is an important question for every party member.

[Djorgovic] The membership can be informed and still be passive. There is the problem of how to participate.

[Butenko] An informed man can at least make evaluations and decisions, and an uninformed one can do nothing. Politically he is at a very low level, he is, so to speak, politically dead.

[Djorgovic] Will anything be changed in the elections of the top leadership? Is it going to be elected by members or appointed?

[Butenko] This question is being asked very harshly in our country in the following form: How is one to get a guarantee democratization? How is one to establish a guarantee that the personality cult will not be repeated? I shall bring to your attention the fact that, in his recent speech, Comrade Ligachev insisted that we should study the causes for the occurrence and forms of the personality cult as much as possible. Comrade Ligachev added that we still know nothing about those forms.

[Djorgovic] The controversial organization "Pamyat" often appears in public completely legally. Does that mean that the party allows alternative political opinions?

Nationalism Had To Come to the Surface [subhead]

[Butenko] I am trying carefully to study the character of that organization. Our country has big and painful problems in protecting historical and cultural monuments because much has been destroyed. The desire to protect those monuments is something completely normal, and I understand the work of this organization in this respect and find it justifiable. However, some people who have joined it and who rule there have other aims and intentions. They are nationalistically and anti-Semitically disposed, which is completely alien to socialism. I cannot accept that, and have already spoken against it.

[Djorgovic] How do you explain the occurrences of nationalism in your country, for instance in Kazakhstan and the Baltic republics?

[Butenko] Nationalism is a reaction of the past on the present. The national problem had long been supressed in our country and it had to come to the surface at some time. But the time a number of people have chosen to manifest it in the form of nationalism is the very time when we have started to talk about democratization. I believe that they are doing this because they want to stop the changes. In some cases there are some elements of the correct moment, and in some of the incorrect one.

In Latvia, for instance, some people wanted to pay tribute to those people who had fought for national independence, who had opposed tsarism0and the reactionaries. What was wrong about that? That does not mean that they fought against the Russian people. However, some other forces are interfering with that movement and giving it a nationalist, anti-Soviet character. In any case, those phenomena should be studied without any haste. One should not be afraid of the masses, but work with them.

NOVOSTI's Falin Discusses De-Stalinization

AU221219 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 1 Oct 87 p 7

[Interview with Valentin Falin, head of NOVOSTI, by Momcilo Djorgovic, special BORBA correspondent—date and place not given]

[Excerpts] Moscow, Sep—People who are well informed about present Soviet situation do not have to be specially told who Valentin Falin is. In Moscow he is considered to be not only one of the most competent personalities of "perestroyka," [as published] but also a close aide of Mikhail Gorbachev. [passage omitted]

We were interested in his views about the process of de-Stalinization which is now going on in the Soviet Union through the press and historical sciences.

[Falin] What is de-Stalinization? Does it mean throwing Stalin out of history, liquidating him? We cannot liquidate Stalin, we cannot cross out a period in our country's history, the world war, and everything that is directly or

indirectly connected with Stalin. The only possible solution is to find this politician and statesman's place in real events with all his positive and negative sides.

Positive and Negative Facts [subhead]

[Djorgovic] What is it which makes that task so complex?

[Falin] It is complex and difficult because our view is retrospective, when everything is clear. All the cards that were covered at the time of the actual events are now open on the table. They were not known to the participants and many decisions were made intuitively. We must take all the facts into consideration, both positive and negative ones, in their entirety and with their contradictions.... [passage omitted] If we want to carry out an adequate historical analysis, we cannot transfer all our principles to the events and situations of those times.

[Djorgovic] It is very difficult to draw the line between criticism and faultfinding. How do you establish the demarcation between the two?

[Falin] Criticism is an extremely honest and objective analysis of something that has happened, an explanation of why something happened, whether it should not have happened, and who is responsible and in what way. However, one should not do what is sometimes done: If we properly condemn somebody for abuse of power, violation of the law, then we most often deny him his merits as well. What is involved here are the tasks set us by the party and Central Committee. These tasks are not formulated by one man. The tasks are very complex and very painful, because we must touch very painful processes and painful stages in our development and in some cases make a simple and in some a manifold assessment about them. In any case, there will be no deviations from the decisions of the 20th Congress where the assessment of Stalin's personality is involved. Moreover, I expect some evaluations from the Congress to be even more specific. [passage omitted]

[Djorgovic] We have just had an opportunity to hear a warning from your public media which cannot be ignored just like that. Namely, there is an opinion that the present criticism expressed in literature and history is manipulated by the propaganda of special foreign services.

[Falin] I do not understand. What is the link between special services and literature?

[Djorgovic] I cannot see that link either, but I can quote something I read in the newspapers a few days ago: "Our opponents are trying to push individual representatives of the art world intelligentsia to positions of faultfinding, demagoguery, and nihilism."

[Falin] If one takes into consideration the things that radio stations such as Voice of America, Radio Free Europe, BBC, and Deutsche Welle broadcast to Soviet listeners, than it is one of their tasks to organize enmity towards socialism, the existing setup, and the role of the Communist Party, as well as to distort our history. For instance, the population of Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia were subjected to concentrated treatment about 3 months ago. The people were urged to go out into streets and organize demonstrations on 23 August. Addresses, the time of the rally, the names of the people who would be there, and the names of those who would lead the demonstrations were given.

[Djorgovic] Do you think that such programs have real power?

[Falin] Many such programs are now broadcast in the languages spoken in Central Asian republics. Such programs can even be connected with the activities of special services. This is not a new phenomenon. After World War II, the American Congress earmarked officially and legally $100 million for financing undermining activity. That was also openly written down in the law "against socialism, against the Soviet Union and other socialist countries." There are no such provocative formulations now, but the resources are still being allocated and, I assure you, they are much bigger resources. Only the Beginning of the Process [subhead]

[Djorgovic] Every country should certainly protect itself from psychological war. However, is the patriotism of citizens not the strongest defense? Your caution is understandable and justifiable, but does it not seem strange that the warning I have quoted is given to the public at this very time when the country is experiencing an information boom?

[Falin] I think that our public, the information media, and our social sciences interpret those warnings in the correct way. It was said at the latest Central Committee plenum that the party does not intend to reduce criticism. At the meeting with the leaders of the media, Mikhail Gorbachev said firmly and resolutely that there is no restructuring without democratization, nor is there democratization without "glasnost." These are indivisible elements of the whole. The only thing that we should firmly assert and to which we will firmly adhere is that democratization and "glasnost" should occur within the framework of socialism and not outside it.

[Djorgovic] There is therefore no danger that the information boom will cease.

[Falin] What you notice today and what you call an information boom is only the beginning for us. The process will continue, probably not in such a sensational way, because you will get used to it and because our people will get used to criticism. That boom can assume some other forms and expressions, but the essence will remain the same. Why is that so? Because restructuring

and renovation are not some short-term activity, but a process. They are revolutionary in their essence and their depth is great. What is changing with them are not quantitative parameters, but our life philosophy, philosophical practice. What we actually need is to bring up a new generation, to bring up in the people living today and in those who are born or growing up now the desire and will to actively participate in the processes that are occurring in our society.

[Djorgovic] Can you tell us something more specific about the information bill? There has been no such law in the USSR before?

[Falin] We are bringing in an all-encompassing document that will include provisions about the rights and obligations of the media, chief editors, editorial collegiums, and working collectives, about the methods of their work and ways to react to letters to editors. [passage omitted] The newspapers will be granted the right to make an independent critical assessment of events. The law will have a set provision on statements on behalf of the editorial board and on the author's own behalf. [passage omitted]

Karpov on Glorification of Stalin, Brezhnev
PM220921 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 7 Oct 87 p 4

[Interview with Vladimir Karpov, first secretary of the USSR Writers Union, by Nikolay Dobryukha: "Vladimir Karpov: 'But Now I Will Know This'"; first paragraph is SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA introduction]

[Excerpts] Universal attention is riveted on the pages of history of the Soviet state in the year of its 70th anniversary. Our meeting with Vladimir Vasilyevich Karpov, hero of the Soviet Union, former front-line scout, and now first secretary of the USSR Writers Union, began with a conversation about one of them, a discussion about the Great Patriotic War.

[Karpov] Time erases the pain, experiences, and sufferings that we endured in those terrible years. Is that good or bad? Probably good because it is impossible to live feeling that pain. But on the other hand what we endured should in no way be forgotten. It should not be forgotten above all in the name of the future, in the name of our children and the new generations that will succeed us.

Now you can no longer find where the powerful defensive positions once were: The old trenches have been plowed over and the wounds in the earth have been healed. But the wounds in the soul of our generation will remain to the end of our days. [passage omitted]

[Dobryukha] What do you, as first secretary of the Writers Union, think about the stagnant processes in literature? How are they being overcome?

[Karpov] It is well known that stagnation appeared in almost all spheres of our society. Creative life among writers was not without its problems, and crisis phenomena and other misfortunes, of course, exerted their pernicious influence. For instance, this was manifested in the fact that before 1956 Stalin was considered to be the "inspirer and organizer of all our victories." Litterateurs wrote about this more often than others, faithfully believing in the correctness of their words. Today they attempt to explain this by saying that they did not know the true nature of Stalin. Even in those years we often cited Lenin, but we somehow forgot the truth expressed by him that the people are the main creators of history and, consequently, in wartime the main force, the main winners of victory.

Then the time came when they tried to erase Stalin from history or spoke of him only in negative terms.

Then many writers started to seek the explanation for our victories in the combat career of the 18th Army, especially Malaya Zemlya [allusion to former Soviet leader Brezhnev's wartime service as political officer]. It goes without saying that the heroes of Malaya Zemlya performed legendary exploits, but all the same to ascribe the glorious martial deeds of these marvelous servicemen to the presence there of a political worker, however talented, is a great exaggeration. Even without him they would have fought just as courageously and bravely. And it seems a quite grotesque exaggeration to confer on that political worker the title of Hero four times and also crown him with the "Victory" order, which were honors that he did not merit by any criteria or status.

Of course, not all writers were concerned with seeking and describing the "heroic deeds" of named (and unnamed) personalities. As a rule, spineless people concocted poetry and prose on this theme. But I mention this because we all share the blame—even if many people did not write on this theme: We all kept silent about it. Those same "stagnant" thromboses clearly blocked our inspiration, although we all clearly perceived the artificiality and even the absurdity of the organized cascade of stars.

Everything that is going on now in our country has objectively resulted in people starting to think in broader terms and to analyze more deeply. For instance, the last writers' plenum raised such significant ecological and social problems that the entire country turned its attention to them. Take the impending disaster concerning the Aral Sea, for example. A group of writers has already gone there. Our most active writer and publicist Yuriy Chernichenko, for example, has joined in this work. The attention of the republic's writers has been drawn to it. The USSR Writers Union Secretariat is supporting this initiative in every way in order to save the local population from disaster. We now need to talk not about the loss of millions of rubles but about the loss of people's

lives inasmuch the fate of the land on which they live is in question. Writers are a force reacting rapidly to everything that is going on in the world.

[Dobryukha] What is the main lesson you have learned in your life?

[Karpov] Despite the fact that there were shattering disasters in my life, when it seemed that life was over and everything was wrecked, I think that things have turned out favorably for me. I now take a different view of all these disasters and even mortal danger, which has often hung over me. Why? I have already said that from my schooldays, from about fifth or sixth grade, I began to write poetry and thought of myself only as a writer. In conversations with adults I realized that a writer must have enormous life experience. The fate and creative work, say, of Jack London and other writers who experienced very many ordeals and derived material for their books from them convinced me of this. And that is the attitude that I have adopted toward everything that has happened in my life, which has been my salvation. Whereas maybe another person would have hung his head, folded his arms, and died, would have simply ceased to exist physically, I was saved by my inner state. I was in underground prisons, in cold cells, and in concrete boxes. Sometimes, when I was frozen, frozen to the marrow, another person in this state would perhaps have indeed died. The main thing that saved me at such moments was this conviction: I said to myself with my last dying ember of consciousness: "Now I will know about this... Now I will know about this!"

Fate has given me an enormous gift. I should have died during the war—not to mention all the previous ordeals—several times, perhaps... After all, a regimental scout is not a Stirlitz who performs one mission for half his life or for many years... I do not wish to speak ill of Stirlitzes—they are very courageous people. But being a regimental scout is totally different. My task was to go out into the night and bring back a "canary." Not some kind of doll, not a plaster cast, not a dummy, but a sentry—a healthy and strong person standing with weapon in hand in order to locate you, track you down, and kill you.

If you were found in the rear... People could sneak off from the front line, take a breather, they could go there if they were wounded, people were even lost... When you were found in the enemy's rear... things were not so simple. It is fate's gift to me that I have lived so many years after the war.

Life is great happiness. Life itself! This is the main lesson I have learned in my life! In my youth I was also a poet, but, evidently, like youth itself and many other things about a person, that passes... It's natural. I stopped writing poetry. That emerged definitively long ago. Nature did not make me a poet, but I'm obviously a prose writer...

Reaction to Letters to Stalin Recalled
PM141317 Moscow MOSCOW NEWS in English No 40, 4 Oct 87 p 9

[David Gay article: "Vladimir Venzher: I Did My Best To Fight Against Such Stereotypes"; quotation marks as published]

[Text] What happened When One Scientist Wrote to Stalin [subhead]

"There was nothing casual in my life," says 88-year-old Vladimir Venzher, agricultural economist, who still has an excellent memory. This person has become well known in science through rather dramatic circumstances. His notorious popularity began, perhaps, with the letters he and his wife, Aleksandra Sanina, sent to Joseph Stalin.

Four Letters to Stalin [subhead]

"A discussion of a draft of a textbook on the political economy was under way in our country in the second half of 1951," recalls Vladimir Venzher. "It boiled down not so much to the new textbook, as to the cardinal questions of improving socialist production relations. We could not keep aloof, and after due consideration, wrote four letters to Stalin. The first two dealt with the description of socialism in general and its economic laws. In the third and fourth letters questions were raised on placing the equipment concentrated at machine and tractor stations (MTS) at the disposal of collective farms and on introducing a self-supporting system on collective farms (i.e., on establishing normal commodity-money relations)".

Of course, the content of the letters was quite "seditious". As is generally known, Stalin was opposed to the development of commodity-money relations under socialism. First of all because they implied a certain freedom of choice for the customer as well as the vendor and did not fit into centralized distribution "from the top". How were the events moving?

"There was no answer for quite a long time," recalls Venzher. "To tell the truth, we gave up hope. Suddenly, there was a telephone call. Poskrebyshev, Stalin's assistant, warned: "Be at home this evening - a letter from the Kremlin will be delivered to you." It was my wife who talked to him. She decided to notify me and went to the Institute of Economics of the Academy of Sciences, where I worked. From my house, not far from the Kropotkinskaya Metro station, it usually took 15-20 minutes to get to Volkhonka, but my wife spent an hour and a half as she could hardly drag herself along.

Then we stayed at home all evening in expectation. At last, close to midnight, the doorbell rang. A liaison officer entered and asked us to produce our documents. Having made sure that we were the right addressees, he

delivered a big red letter on which it was written diagonally: "From J.V. Stalin". We opened the letter and eagerly read the beginning of the answer. "I have received your letters. It can be seen from them that their authors are making a profound and serious study of the economic problems of our country. There are quite a number of correct formulations and interesting arguments in the letters. But along with these, there are some grave theoretical errors. It is on these errors that I propose to dwell in this reply..."

Having read the reply, Venzher let fall a remark: "Shura, we've gone down in history". Or, "we have gotten into a pretty mess"? Understand as you wish.

Stalin reduced everything to the 2nd and 3rd letters, simply putting aside the others. He paid especially great attention to collective farms, or rather relations between the state and collective farms. The tone of his statements was peremptory, explicit and cruel.

"Assuming for a moment that we accepted Comrade Sanina's and Venzher's proposals," he wrote, "and began to sell the basic instruments of production, the machine and tractor stations, to the collective farms as their property. What would be the outcome? The outcome would be, first, that collective farms would become the owners of the basic instruments of production; that is, their status would be an exceptional one such as is not shared by any other enterprise in our country...The outcome would be, secondly, an extension of the sphere of operation of commodity circulation, because a gigantic quantity of instruments of agricultural production would come within its orbit. What do Comrades Sanina and Venzher think—is the extension of the sphere of commodity circulation calculated to promote our advance towards communism? Would it not be truer to say that our advance towards communism would only be retarded by it?"

In Stalin's opinion such a stand "is a profound error, arising from an inadequate grasp of Marxism". The reply was dotted with such phrases as "Comrades Sanina and Venzher are suggesting a step in reversion to the old backwardness and are trying to turn back the wheel of history"; "Comrades Sanina and Venzher evidently do not agree with this. All the worse for them". Such accusations could have far-reaching consequences.

"Did yu realize at that time what would be the outcome of this for you and your wife?"

"We realized it very well. We deliberately tried to expose the sores of our agrarian economy. When an abscess is fully grown it ought to be lanced. To speak about this at the top of our voice was the demand of our scientists' conscience."

The reply to A. Sanina and V. Venzher actually became the last published work in Stalin's lifetime, which imparts special colouring to it. At first, Venzher's colleagues phoned him, discussed the reply, then the telephone became silent for a long time. Stalin's tone itself gave rise to certain associations. People simply feared to maintain relations with a husband and wife who had fallen into disfavour and were accused of "dissidence".

At the Institute of Economics some people demanded that immediate conclusions be made regarding Venzher. Their fervour was restrained by the fact that, at the beginning, Stalin spoke of two scientists who made a profound and serious study of economic problems. Probably, with this phrase the leader had issued them a "safeguard".

The Only Correct Policy is the Policy of Principle [subhead]

This thought of Lenin's is particularly cherished by Vladimir Venzher. It gave him strength to live and fight, he found in it a meaning for his existence. As a high school pupil, 15-year-old Volodya attended a Marxist circle. Then he enrolled in the Physics and Mathematics Department of Moscow University. The February and October revolutions broke out, followed by the Civil War in which Venzher participated. He joined the Party in 1919. During the peaceful development period he carried out party work in the Crimea, Central Asia, at the Central Committee and Moscow City Party Committee. He studied at the Institute of Red Professors, was sent as a head of the MTS political department in the Volga Region. That is where he really came to know Soviet agrarian problems.

At the end of 1936 Venzher left for the Don area and became a director of a state farm that grew grain. He remained there for more than two years. Then his life again changed sharply. Forty-year-old Venzher became a postgraduate student of the Institute of Economics of the Academy of Sciences where he fully devoted himself to the solution of the economic problems in agriculture.

Nearly 50 years have passed since then. Although it was a difficult period for the science of economics Venzher never dishonoured himself by abandoning his principles. I remember the phrase by his junior colleague: "In everyday life he is flexible and adaptable, in science—firm and uncompromising."

In 1957 Venzher was invited to lecture in Bulgaria. Addressing the aktiv of economists he openly spoke about things unrecognized by official science. He maintained that the law of value "is not abolished" under socialism and its action mustn't be artificially restricted. In collective farm practice, for example, it means transition to labor remuneration in cash. He raised the question on the transfer of tractors, harvester combines, trucks and other machines for collective farms. He

proved the need for replacing "compulsory deliveries" with sales of the harvest grown by collective farms. It sounded new and unusual. Venzher was applauded and showered with questions.

When he returned to Moscow a scandal broke out. Venzher was nearly expelled from the party "for undermining the economic foundations of socialism". But a few months later Khrushchev assembled prominent specialists to discuss...the transfer of equipment available at the MTS to collective farms. Yes, precisely this question.

"I knew Khrushchev, as we did Party work together and good relations had developed between us," said Venzher. "I had only one night to prepare for the meeting. Everything was being done in haste. I firmly decided not to touch upon my correspondence with Stalin. Khrushchev resolved to become the initiator of the transfer—let it be so, without getting deeper into the matter. The point is not who was the first to suggest this..."

The first to speak was a member of the All-Union V.I. Lenin Academy of Agricultural Sciences. He began lauding to the skies Khrushchev who sharply cut him short saying: "I haven't assembled you for this..." At that time he did not recognize as necessary any glorification regarding himself. Then I was given the floor. Khrushchev listened attentively, took down some notes without interrupting and making remarks. The essence of report was: It is necessary to radically change economic relations between the state and collective farms.

One doctor of sciences spoke after the interval and, just imagine, began stating our correspondence with Stalin. Unnoticeable, I showed him my fist, but to no avail... Khrushchev stopped the chatterbox:

"Let me say that Venzher and Sanina maintained that it is necessary to eliminate machine and tractor stations, but I suggest that they be transformed into repair and tractor stations (RTS). These are different things."

I could not stand it any longer.

"Nikita Sergeyevich, we did not suggest the elimination of the MTS. We substantiated the urgent need for the transfer of machinery but did not touch upon the further fate of the MTS. It is not for science to solve this problem.

"No", Khrushchev said, "you suggested. Stalin told me this."

"That is not true," I tried to prove that I was right. "Publish our correspondence and everything will become clear..."

During the second interval nobody approached me. And immediately afterwards, speakers began attacking me in debates.

After some time collective farms got as their property 650,000 tractors (now they have more than one million such machines) and other equipment.

Venzher's Orbit [subhead]

Perhaps none of Venzher's research works made its way in science without struggle and without losses. It took him 10 years to publish the book *Socio-Economic Prospects in the Development of the Collective Farm System.* Once the composed material was scattered. In the book there are cuttings dealing with problems of principle, specifically the development of the collective farm system as a cooperative-type system. It is not fortuitous that the author stresses everywhere "cooperative and collective farm" and not "collective farm-cooperative" property. A substantial amendment. After the 22nd Party Congress the opponents of commodity-money relations became quiet but did not lay aside their arms.

Dozens of pupils and people developed under the influence of his personality, were drawn into "Venzher's Orbit". They did not agree in everything with their teacher; sometimes they argued with him, and very strongly at that. But it did not prevent them from having a profound sympathy for one another. Let's take the fate of a well-known economist and sociologist Tatyana Zaslavskaya. She attended lectures on political economy, given by Vladimir Venzher's wife, Aleksandra Sanina, studying at the physics department of Moscow University and became so engrossed with them she was transferred to the economics department. As a result of this, Soviet science got a leading scientist, an academician.

"I was a witness and participant in the basic stages in the formation of the Soviet state," says Vladimir Venzher. "The economic reform now taking place is characterized, above all, by the break-up of stereotypes in thinking. I did my best to fight against such stereotypes."

Video Industry Failings, Tasks Discussed

PM161437 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 25 Sep 87 Second Edition p 3

[Leonid Parfenov article under the rubric "Video: Present and Future": "The 'Third Screen'"]

[Text] First of all some figures. There are 350,000 video recorders in the country, and there are 140 video stores. But at the moment only a small percentage of video recorder owners use them, and 400 of the 600 videotapes on offer are lying like a dead weight on the shelves. But you have to consider that the figure of 350,000 is very approximate. So far the Ministry of the Electronics Industry has produced a total of 52,000 video recorders. And it is not planned to start up production of video tape for cassettes until 1989.

Of course, the situation we are now in has not appeared out of the blue. We are paying for having neglected the development of the video business for years and years.

Our lack of vision from a technical standpoint is unforgiveable: After all, the first video recorders were created by Soviet engineers more than 20 years ago. Despite the obvious wealth of potential for the use of video, we have long regarded it as an expensive luxury and strictly an attribute of "their" lifestyle.

Our present videotape market is a fantastic hodgepodge of exchange (sometimes more complicated than the exchange of apartments), buying and selling, hiring, and rerecording. A volatile situation in which, until now, there has been virtually no organized state role. This should now be filled by the "Videofilm" All-Union Creation-and-Production Association set up under the auspices of the USSR State Committee for Cinematography.

The formation of "Videofilm" has been a systematic, complex process. It was preceded by serious party and government decisions and the allocation of considerable funds, including hard currency. The association is expected to be the main body in charge of videotape production and hire. A fundamental condition is that it operate on the basis of economic accountability and, in the not too distant future, self-financing.

Does economic accountability have a future? There is a heated debate going on about this. The video business must definitely be based on economic accountability. The whole point of the videotape is that it must be geared to meet the real demands of the real consumer. And the commercial success of the new firm would be the only irrefutable evidence of this: it is fulfilling its function and responding well to the social needs of the consumer. But how can we clearly define the type of consumer and his social needs?

It is hard to build up a picture of a typical video user. How can we get an idea of his qualitative characteristics when even our information on numbers is "dissipated" over the entire spectrum? We cannot build up this picture in the conventional way if people do not register their purchase of equipment and, moreover, if this equipment is obtained through private individuals, imported from abroad, rather than through the traditional trade network, as is often the case. Some local leaders have exclaimed: How can this be, "private movie theaters out of our control"! (I have actually heard this opinion expressed), and they have introduced a compulsory "registration system" and demanded that cassettes be submitted for inspection. Too many errors have been made. Even though incompetent administrative measures have been avoided, these intimidating campaigns have done nothing but harm. Profound conclusions like "this type of person does not watch that type of videotape" have merely created the illusion of "being in command of the situation."

Video stores have likewise contributed little to our picture of video equipment owners. This is not only because the videotapes available are unpopular; they are also all basically in the same genre: films and a few television programs. It is probably true that consumer interests can only really be established by supplying trial copies of various videotapes. We will have to proceed by "trial and error"; our applied sociology does not provide all the answers. Only this approach, which will possibly give us "a few bumps and bruises" on the way, will provide us with enough information to be able to draw reliable conclusions. As far as the individual video recorder owner is concerned, of course.

But there is also the collective viewer. There are plans to create 1,000 video halls by the end of next year—an entire network. They will mainly be in remote towns and settlements. Even a "simple" movie lending service is more convenient, more technological, and more efficient if cassettes are used instead of heavy metal film canisters. The latest films will at last reach the most remote areas without a 2-year delay. The prospects for acquainting people in remote areas with the cultural events of the center with the aid of video are even more promising. "The theory is as follows," O. Uralov, the director of "Videofilm," explained. "Take the sensational premiere of *'Heart of a Dog'* in Moscow, for example. We will shoot the fifth or sixth performance, say. We shoot the show straight, there in the theater. We then distribute the cassettes to towns and villages. After all, why should people living in these places have to form their opinion on Moscow theater only from reviews in the press?"

Yes, if a theater performance is shown on national television, it is usually not before popular interest has waned so that box office takings do not suffer. It is not hard to imagine many other areas where video could be used, such as recording seminars by renowned Moscow academicians; they could be specially tailored for local VUZ's. The compactness of the videotape and the ability to stop and replay will prove useful to movie clubs in remote areas. Without cassettes of "difficult" films with a qualified commentary (a prepared lesson), the problem of the serious viewer is hardly likely to be resolved. According to a recent report, the procedure followed for treating the basketball player Sabonis, who is seriously traumatized, is being recorded on videotape to assist the Soviet specialists who will continue the sportsman's treatment begun by a Finnish doctor. Of course, the videotape cannot completely solve the problem of "discrepancies" between the center and outlying areas, but it can ease it.

I also think we need a new program distribution system and the opportunity for flexible distribution: Something unpopular in one region might be in demand in another. An order system would help matters. A catalog of forthcoming video programs would help to give a more accurate picture of the number of copies available—"making a slipup" in this respect would be more financially disadvantageous to "Videofilm" than to any producer. A service for recording videotapes on customers' own cassettes could certainly be offered on a mail basis, as far from all interested parties have the opportunity to call in personally.

Video stores and clubs must also operate on an economically accountable basis if they are to thrive, expanding their services and constantly taking note of requirements. Their employees must have reliable incentives and opportunities for research. Otherwise, the full potential of the videotape hire system will not be realized: There must be different videotapes available for different types of audiences.

There are a number of plans. But, it goes without saying, the "Videofilm" Association must start work properly. It does not even have its own premises at the moment—its move to Sokolniki, originally planned for May, keeps being postponed. Expensive equipment is about to be delivered, but there are no studios or other special equipment rooms, only three rooms in the building of another State Committee for Cinematography organization.

The granting of priority rights and even the justified cultivation of collective video by no means signify any denigration of the individual video user. On the contrary, he will be given the greatest attention. It is easier to work with a collective client: He is less demanding and, in areas where national television reception is unreliable, the videotape almost has a missionary role to play. The degree to which "Videofilm" becomes a source of recordings for the "private owner" will demonstrate its ability to supply highly professional, original products.

The question of how to make a videotape that will be judged on its own merit is being raised very categorically. The "rules" of the cinema are inappropriate and it is not just a matter of technological incompatibility. Television is closer to video; that is why the latter is known as cassette TV. But are there many producers whose programs people would like to see repeated? Are there many programs produced for television which concentrate on the visual rather than the verbal aspects? Thanks to the firm belief that "television in our country is editorial and not directorial," there are virtually no producers trained specifically for television. None of the problems facing the "Videofilm" Association can be considered minor, but what if the cadres expected to resolve them are also a problem.... It is something of a disaster if you encounter virgin territory and there is no one to work it.

People will therefore have to be employed "on a temporary basis." However, even in the future, if training for television producers and equally essential video technicians is eventually organized, the contract will probably remain as the basis of relations between the association and the videotape supplier. Only the choice of staff will be greater. But what will such a contract have to offer? What material and creative incentive will it provide?

Again, everything comes down to the economic model. If it is consistent and really based on accountability, rather than just being an unfortunate palliative, it will be a creative act for the viewer. Should it slide down the grim road of artificial consultation into the familiar rut, then cost estimates split into items categorized as "miscellaneous," normatives, and deadlines set by people who have never held a camera in their lives will gain the upper hand again; in short, narrow-mindedness will again be used for the purpose of jacking up pay and awarding unwarranted bonuses.

"Videofilm" offers a unique opportunity to build the first full economic accountability system in culture starting from scratch and without making any compromises. Unlike the cinema, which is faced with similar tasks, the video industry is beginning with a clean slate; it is far easier to build with new bricks than rebuild with old ones. Open competition with foreign counterparts, the parallel existence of unofficial distribution, and the appearance of video cooperatives will all help to test the strength of what is being built. A monopoly is to no one's advantage in any business, not even the monopolist's.

Changes in production will, perhaps, go some way toward resolving the "human" difficulties of the screen, including the seemingly eternal copyright issue. Genuine "feedback" will revitalize the existing audience research service ("Videofilm" will certainly require its own research service as the subject of the research is too specific). This will ensure that it bears the responsibility for its own forecasts, calculates future impact when a screenplay is actually being written, is always a few steps ahead, and does not spin tales about our public being the most widely read and our audience the most grateful.

International ties deserve a special mention. Even now "Videofilm" is receiving a lot of orders and proposals from foreign firms. In developed countries video is firmly established as one of the main channels of information, and given the present surge of interest in our country this cannot be ignored. A firm foothold on the international video market is an indispensable condition of self-financing, considering that the equipment needed by "Videofilm" is all imported. Of course, the association itself must be responsible for buying foreign videotapes, rather than "Soyuzeksportfilm"; first, because this is quite different from buying movies and, second, why pay for others' possible errors when operating on an economically accountable basis? It is far better to pay for your own mistakes—at least this will warn you against making them again.

Implementation of the video industry's comprehensive program will, perhaps, teach many other cultural spheres some lessons for the future. Although these lessons—bitter at present—could actually be learned now.

One would like to believe that video is the last in a line of modern cultural and social innovations that will find us "unprepared" for action. We failed to immediately realize that cinema and television would be followed by a new form of screen art. We waited around long enough for this phenomenon to become a problem—a problem neglected—and only then did we begin to try to make up

for lost time. This has happened before, with the phonograph record and tape recording, for example, and in both cases the "Melodiya" firm still cannot claim to be the unquestioned arbiter of our music lovers' tastes.

We are currently on the brink of "universal television." With its parabolic antenna, television is cutting a door, not just a window, on the world. The cost will therefore be all the more serious if we are let down again by prejudice, inertia, and fear of change. It is not simply a question of being able to react promptly. It is a question of being able to look ahead.

Economic

Deputy Finance Minister on Monetary Reform

AU201253 Paris AFP in English 1250 GMT 20 Oct 87

[Text] Moscow, Oct 20 (AFP)—A Soviet deputy finance minister has ruled out monetary reform in the Soviet Union to check the surplus amount of rubles in circulation.

In an interview with the latest edition of the weekly *Argumenti I Fakti*, Stanislav Borisov said "there is much too much money in circulation," but stressed that "no monetary reform is in preparation, and there is no need for one."

He said that monetary reforms were only necessary in "extraordinary circumstances", such as at the end of a war, in order to restore economic stability.

Noting that "negative phenomena" existed in the economy, he said that people had a right to a lot of money if they earned it honestly. But those who had "stolen" money through illegal earnings should be prosecuted. There was a need to eliminate the cause of the disproportion rather than the consequences, he said.

"Personally, I am counting more on price reform" to solve the problem of excess money in circulation, he said without giving further details about the planned price hikes.

In a separate development, the Soviet Union on Tuesday issued three new coins — in one-ruble, three-ruble and five-ruble denominations — to mark the 70th anniversary of the Bolshevik Revolution.

The Kremlin traditionally issues new coins to mark the anniversary, but these are the first in three- and five-ruble denominations.

Abalkin on Competition, Price Reform

PM201523 Moscow TRUD in Russian 6 Oct 87 p 2

[First installment of a two-part interview with L.I. Abalkin, director of the Institute of Economics and corresponding member of the USSR Academy of Sciences, by TRUD correspondent V. Golovachev: "A Time of Decisive Changes"; date and place of interview not given; first two grafs are TRUD introduction; passages in boldface as published]

[Text] Probably never before has the economy and its problems and prospects for development attracted such keen interest. This is understandable. Restructuring's success will depend above all on the effectiveness of radical changes in this area. A key role in the theoretical substantiation of radical reform of economic mechanism and formulation of the concrete program of actions belongs to the CPSU Central Committee June (1987) Plenum.

This is only the beginning; on a number of questions very heated discussions are still in progress, and a quest for optimum solutions is under way. Here is an interview with L.I. Abalkin, the prominent Soviet scientist, director of the Institute of Economics, and corresponding member of the USSR Academy of Sciences, by *Trud* correspondent V. Golovachev, devoted to a number of topical economic problems.

[Golovachev] One of the questions currently the subject of heated discussions is economic competition [sorevnovaniye; throughout article, unless alternative vernacular word is supplied, "competition" translates the Russian "sorevnovaniye" and its derivatives]. What, in your view, is the essence of this competition?

[Abalkin] To begin with, let me note that restructuring is a phenomenon unprecedented in the last 50 years of the history of our socialist society as to its scale, depth of transformations, and revolutionary spirit.

I am deeply convinced we have no other option. The further progress of society and historical destiny of socialism in our country are inseparable from restructuring. We have faith in the strength and ability of socialism to overcome any, even the most complex, situations. We have faith in the wisdom and energy of our people.

Naturally, restructuring demands new, profound approaches both in economic theory and in management practice. Concepts are coming to the fore, such as economic competition, full economic accountability [khozraschet], self-management of labor collectives, and self-financing, which, although they did exist in the past, were not thoroughly worked out or were even rejected out of hand.

Economic competition is one of the fundamental characteristics of the socialist economic system. It is not a partial question or some kind of local process; it is a

general feature which characterizes the system. Difficulties in understanding this concept are explainable: We frequently try to squeeze a new theoretical formulation reflecting modern approaches to the national economy's leadership into the Procrustean bed of orthodox notions.

What is the deeper meaning of economic competition? Let us recall past lessons. Excessive centralization in the economy led to creation of monopolistic tendencies, that is, to a situation where in many cases in our country, there is a single producer for certain types of goods, a single organization controlling scientific research or design activity in a specific area, and so forth. We have forgotten Lenin's warning that any monopoly (not only in conditions of private ownership) inevitably engenders stagnation tendencies. Our experience has revealed how farsighted Lenin was.

Therefore, the problem of economic competition concerns all areas of the national economy. To illustrate this, I will name a number of spheres in which we must overcome these unfavorable tendencies, based on development of economic competition.

Let us begin with competition between enterprises in different sectors of the economy—state and cooperative enterprises. After all, we are setting up cooperatives not just to help eliminate shortages of goods and services. In my view, we are developing diverse forms of trade, services to the population, and goods production also to ensure competition [sostyazatelnost]— to provide the consumer with a choice. These are the actual elements of economic competition.

Take the scientific and technical sphere, for instance. Do you remember with what zeal the struggle against parallelism and duplication in the work of scientific research institutes and design bureaus was waged in our country? Today we are rejecting simplistic claims that duplication, creation of parallel organizations, leads to resource dissipation. On the contrary, monopolization in the area of scientific research turns out to be damaging as a rule. It leads to losses because the equipment produced is not the latest; progressive ideas are "put on ice," and so forth. Design work on a competitive [konkursnyy] basis, parallel research and development work in key areas— this too essentially is economic competition.

Then there is the problem of competition to obtain state resources. Look at credit, for instance. The state's credit resources are not unlimited. Of course, society must allocate them sensibly. Preference must be given to collectives or organizations that ensure their most effective use and speediest return. Hence, the right to obtain credit must also be allocated on a competitive [konkursnyy] basis. That, once again, is an aspect of economic competition.

[Golovachev] Leonid Ivanovich, so far you have said nothing about competition between state enterprises.

[Abalkin] Indeed, competition between enterprises... Primarily, of course, for the sake of the consumer, to better satisy his needs— competition for the consumer's rubles, if you like. To ensure that he spends his honestly earned rubles on "my" goods, on the services I am offering and not on someone else's... To achieve this, certain conditions have to exist, of course. For instance, it is necessary to ensure "equilibrium" in the market, a balance between supply and demand...

Naturally, this will take time and effort. It requires both a price reform and saturation of the market with high-grade goods, some of which will be produced by cooperatives and as a result of individual labor activity. This will provide a choice. The consumer will choose, and producers will compete to ensure that it is their goods that sell. After all, a labor collective's wage fund and its opportunities to accumulate resources to solve social tasks will depend on its sales of output and services.

[Golovachev] You have cited the preconditions for economic competition. But it is the shortages that act as a retarding factor. Does this not mean we ought to postpone economic competition until the "situation improves," until we have overcome the shortages, until we have carried out price reform?

[Abalkin] Of course not. It is obvious that economic competition will not reveal its full force as a powerful stimulus of acceleration straight away. I think that its full potential will only be revealed to a greater or lesser extent by the early nineties, when we will have carried out all planned transformations. However, we must begin to pursue this aim right now, without delay. The practical work has already started. For instance, we have begun to select scientific and technical projects on a competitive [konkursnyy] basis. Wholesale fairs, where producers display their goods and trade selects what it wants, are another element of this competition. Cooperatives are being established in the area of consumer services and public catering among others...

Economic competition must permeate every pore of the national economy.

[Golovachev] Sometimes, people speaking about this subject employ the term "rivalry" [konkurentsiya] or "socialist rivalry." What is your view on this?

[Abalkin] My attitude to this is negative. Now, in the atmosphere of glasnost, during the process of broad discussion of problems in general, people tend to overreact, I think. They are vying with each other as to who can shout loudest, who can slam the door hardest, who dares to use the most "shocking" words. However, this is no more than verbal gymnastics.

In economic science there are terms used historically to describe specific social conditions. This also applies to the terms "competition" [sorevnovaniye] and "rivalry" [konkurentsiya]. Lenin has said that rivalry is a special

kind of competition. It comes to the fore in conditions of capitalism, in conditions of private ownership. He regarded competition as the more general term, defining it, just like Marx, as a concept inherent in the most varied forms of production. Competition in general is part and parcel of the process of joint labor. It acts as a stimulant of vital energy.

[Golovachev] Some people might ask whether it is not because the term "rivalry" is used to describe capitalist conditions that it is considered unacceptable.

[Abalkin] I say that I avoid it because I regard it as inaccurate. The difference does not lie on the surface; it lies deep down. The capitalist does not care in the least about the consumer. His welfare, tranquillity, health, and so forth do not bother him at all. The entrepreneur may say he is working "for the the consumer," but he is thinking about something quite different: how to get his hands on the consumer's money, how to make it his own, how to line his pockets. His motive is profit accumulation, using any means available.

In conditions of economic competition the main concern is **man**. This is the **criterion**. Differences do nonetheless exist. They lie in the **social orientation** of our economy. Since economic competition is a component of the socialist economic system, it operates within the framework of this system. Cooperatives, individual labor activity, and all forms of competition [sostyazatelnost] must be developed to the extent to which they serve **people's well-being**, improvement of their living conditions, fuller satisfaction of their needs, and more rational organization of their leisure. To this end, it is necessary to remove all obstacles and to increase the share of the aforementioned cooperative sector to the extent necessary to resolve the set task. Artificial restrictions must be avoided. **It is necessary to give all-around backing to everything new as long as it serves the consolidation of socialism.**

[Golovachev] Questions are being asked about the correlation between economic competition and various existing forms of socialist competition...

[Abalkin] I will tell you my personal view on this. A discussion is in progress and any, including diametrically opposed views, deserve examination. As regards the many forms of competition which have grown up traditionally, in my view, many of them will lose their importance in the future. I frequently engage in polemics with all kinds of opponents on the subject of overfulfillment of plans at all costs, for instance. I believe that frequently these are echoes of the old, traditional system, of the focus on volume, on gross output indicators characteristic of the period of extensive development of the economy. In the construction industry, for instance, we sometimes talk of a project being commissioned ahead of schedule, after the commissioning date has been put back five times. Thus, the plan has only been exceeded in respect to the last deadline.

Labor collectives have now been authorized to draw up their plans themselves. The competition to identify reserves must, in my view, take place above all at the preplan stage, while the plan and contract commitments are being formulated. This is where time has to be saved.

As for footwear, we are now producing as much as the United States, the FRG, Britain, and France together. Yet it is impossible to find a good pair of shoes in the stores. It is not quantity that matters, not quantity alone.

[Golovachev] Economic competition is a very important factor of economic restructuring, but it is not the only factor. There are other problems. Recently, at a representative meeting, a minister was sharply criticized for the fact that plants are dragging their feet in housing construction. He tried to justify himself: "I cannot tell labor collectives now how they should spend their money. It is up to the collectives themselves." He was told that the minister remains, as before, fully responsible for the state of affairs in the sector...

[Abalkin] Yes, this problem does exist. It is obvious however, that if we continue to make the minister accountable for this kind of question there will be no independence for enterprises. The law on the enterprise will not function properly.

We have bestowed extensive rights on labor collectives. The ministry cannot be made responsible for matters within the labor collectives' sphere of competence. In the past, the reverse was true. A labor collective could not be blamed. A director perhaps could be blamed, but not the labor collective. You cannot blame someone who has no right to make decisions. You have to take this argument to its logical conclusion. Ministers must be responsible for different questions, above all, for technical policy, the strategy of development, of structural restructuring of the sector. They must be in control of the levers necessary to resolve these questions.

[Golovachev] What if, for instance, an enterprise sets its annual target below the target envisaged in the 5-year plan? What can the minister do?

[Abalkin] It is disadvantageous for collectives to adopt a lower plan. The incentives funds and the wage fund will be cut. It will be necessary either to drastically reduce the workforce or to cut the average wage. The collective will not agree to this. If the workforce is reduced, people will go where their labor is needed more. The total volume of output and services will not be reduced. There is no danger here. But I do see a danger elsewhere. It is necessary to avoid a situation whereby the whole range of targets which existed before is passed on to enterprises in the form of state orders. This would mean that collectives would be largely deprived of their independence.

[Golovachev] Everything seems to be topsy-turvy now. There are ministers begging the USSR Gosplan to give them a state order for the entire annual program. For decades, the "Gosplan diktat" had been criticized, and now...

[Abalkin] This is not really surprising. After all, if you get a state order, your supply is guaranteed. This is simpler than having to find suppliers and consumers yourself.

[Golovachev] This is all the more true in a situation marked by certain shortages...

[Abalkin] Not everything is clear-cut here, either. It would be more accurate to speak of an imbalance in the economy rather than about shortages. We produce more steel that the United States and the same is true of oil, gas, mineral fertilizer, cement, coal, and so forth. There is no deficit as such, in principle. But given the nonrational design of many of our machines, there is a vast overexpenditure of metal. The low quality of this metal calls for a higher labor input. This means that we could manage with our resources but we would have to change production techniques and machine design and produce higher-quality rolled metal.

Economic accountability [khozraschet] is beginning to produce promising results. Take for instance the experience of the agro-industrial complex in the Kuban. As an experiment, the complex has been switched to wholesale trade. Let people buy what they want. Everyone expected that people in the Kuban would start hoarding, laying in vast reserves of oil products, seeds, feeds, roofing materials, and slate since they were able to do so. However, when people in the Kuban saw that supplies remained stable, that they could buy what they needed, they realized it was not necessary to lay in reserves. It was uneconomical. When you have to pay for everything, and pay more for above-norm reserves, then you cut back your orders yourself. This is where we have a reserve. After all, above-norm reserves worth many billions of rubles are currently lying about in enterprises' warehouses.

[Golovachev] Some managers are frightened by the words "economic competition" and "the diktat of the consumer." What if people suddenly refuse to buy their goods? Their plant will go to the dogs, as they say; it will become bankrupt...

[Abalkin] I usually refrain from using the word "bankruptcy" for the same reason that I do not use the word "rivalry" [konkurentsiya]. It is more accurate to refer to liquidation, to dismantling of individual enterprises. This will, up to a point, become part of our practice. In principle, it is in the interests of socialist society. Listing the ability to tolerate loss-making and nonprofitable enterprises as one of socialism's advantages is tantamount to admitting the socialist society's inability to manage a modern economy as efficiently as the most developed countries.

[Golovachev] At present, loss-making enterprises are maintained with the help of subsidies. This is particularly prominent in agriculture. As a result, low retail prices are maintained...

[Abalkin] This is an inefficient method of management. After all, low prices stimulate consumption; they stimulate demand. What we are doing is stimulating excessive consumption of goods already in short supply. This disrupts the overall balance and runs counter economic logic.

Furthermore, it is irrational in social terms. The claim that with the help of subsidies we support low-income families is a myth lacking a scientific basis.

[Golovachev] Can you prove this?

[Abalkin] If you like. Our average per capita meat consumption totals 62 kilograms. Research has shown that high-income families consume on average some 90 kg of meat per head, while low-income families consume much less.

[Golovachev] How would you define high-income and low-income families?

[Abalkin] The monthly income per member exceeds R100 in the former category, while in the latter it is less than R50.

[Golovachev] But is their meat consumption not supposed to be approximately the same?

[Abalkin] Well, it is not. Given the different level of income, the structure of consumption is also different. This is what happens. There are special studies of family budgets to prove it.

But let us have a look at the figures. The subsidy per kilogram of meat totals approximately R2. So the people who consume 90 kg of meat are subsidized to the tune of R180 via the prices, while others get only R60, for instance. So the end effect is a further differentiation in living standards. As you can see, low-income families lose out.

[Golovachev] The question of prices, the question of changes in this area, is worrying millions of people. This is evident from letters received by the editorial office.

[Abalkin] It has already been stated with utmost emphasis that no major reform in the area of retail prices will be carried out hastily without a prior widespread, open discussion of ways and methods to resolve this problem. It must be explained again and again that nothing will be done without consultation with the people, without discussion.

There is another important point. Improvement of the price system—and this has been emphasized in Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev's speeches—must be carried out in a way to ensure that the living standards of the population as a whole do not deteriorate. I believe that for some sections of the population, the living standards will actually rise. All this has to be done as part of efforts to reinforce social justice. It is a question, specifically, of social protection of families with relatively low incomes. I must add that their low incomes are not the result of poor work on their part but a consequence of fixed incomes. I am talking about pensioners and scholarship holders; there are tens of millions of them in our country. Social protection must also extend to large families...

Self-Funding Wage System Seen Succeeding

PM191157 Moscow TRUD in Russian 3 Oct 87 p 2

[Article by V. Gavrilov, deputy chairman of the USSR State Committee for Labor and Social Problems, under the "General Primary Education in Economics" rubric: "How To Earn Wages"—first paragraph is editorial introduction]

[Text] A resolution of the CPSU Central Committee, USSR Council of Ministers, and AUCCTU "On Improving the Organization of Wages and Introducing New Wage Rates and Salary Scales for Workers in the Production Sectors of the National Economy" was adopted in September last year. It is one of the most important social measures in the current 5-year plan and forms an integral part of the economy's radical restructuring. The most important thing in improving organization of wages is to ensure in reality the principle of social justice: "To everyone according to his labor." What are the initial results of restructuring wages? What is working, and what is not? What conclusions need to be drawn from mistakes made? This is the topic of today's class under the "General Primary Education in Economics" rubric.

I would remind people that wage rates and salary scales are not henceforth to be financed out of the state budget. Funds now have to be earned by the labor collective itself.

More than 4,000 industrial, construction, transport, and communications associations, enterprises, and organizations have already switched to the new conditions of labor remuneration. That is more than 3 million people. Around 15,000 enterprises and associations, with a work force of 10 million, will be employing new forms of remuneration by the end of the year.

What has the initial experience shown? In most cases where they have gone over to the new conditions, labor collectives have become more active. In addition, work efficiency has increased, and the link between wages and work results has become stronger. Collectives have acquired a greater incentive to speed up scientific and technical progress and achieve high-quality output and all-around savings. Many enterprises have reduced their work force and, for the first time in many years, have begun to meet their delivery commitments.

Let me give a few examples. Some 280,00O people have been released from the country's railroads. Labor productivity in so doing will increase by 14.1% by the end of this year, compared with the base year of 1985, with wages rising by 10.5%. In the oil sector, which has suffered a chronic shortage of cadres, more than 70,000 people have been released. Thanks to improvements in labor organization and introduction of new technology, the rates and scales for 660,000 workers have been increased. At the same time, labor productivity has increased this year by more than 5%.

What does this look like in practice? Take, say, the "Nizhnevolzhskneft" Association. The plant economists calculated that to switch the more than 10,000 people there over to the new labor renumeration conditions, R3.9 million would have to be found from the wages funds. This is no mean sum. The collective itself took up the problem. Certification and reorganization of management were carried out, and the work force was cut (around 1,500 workers and specialists). The result is that labor productivity has risen 18.2% and wages 11.3%. A mechanism that provides an economic incentive to enterprises to release surplus workers has worked for the first time. I would stress here in particular that all workers released are immediately placed in a job. Guarantees and opportunities for this exist.

But things are not, of course, running smoothly everywhere. Let us be frank: Innovation often only takes root with difficulty. Here we are really dealing with revolutionary transformations. Many enterprises have proved completely unready for this. The labor collectives themselves, of course, have the prime role to play here. They have now been given the most extensive rights to resolve all the most important questions of enterprises' lives. The switch to higher new rates and scales cannot be accomplished without direct involvement of the collective and trade union committee, either.

But this in no way means a reduction in the role of ministries and trade union central committees. On the contrary, very much depends on them today. Here, of course, we are not talking about administrative pressure or arbitrary orders but provision of effective help to enterprises. Informing them about all regulations pertaining to the new mechanism, explaining all details and complexities of the work ahead and advantages and benefits of the new conditions, providing assistance to the collective in retooling—all this and much else is the direct responsibility of the sector headquarters. It is possible to send experienced specialists from ministries and sector scientific research institutes, plus sociologists, to acquaint enterprises with the experience of the best enterprises working in the new way and to do much else besides.

Unfortunately, however, many ministries have essentially let the matter drift. It is now October, but this work is only just getting under way in the USSR Ministry of Heavy and Transport Machine Building.

Enterprises belonging to the Ukraine SSR, the Kazakh SSR and Kirghiz SSR Ministries of Light Industry, which intends to switch over to the new labor renumeration conditions only toward the end of the 5-year plan, are guilty of unjustifiable slowness. The leaders of the USSR Ministry of Nuclear Power Generation's Leningrad and Smolensk AES's and the USSR Ministry of the Automotive Industry's enterprises are, in general, displaying complete incomprehension of the situation and exhibiting parasitic attitudes. They stubbornly hope that resources will be allocated from the state budget. It is as if the resolution did not apply to them at all.

We are also encountering serious distortions at local level. Some enterprises, instead of carrying out comprehensive measures, are trying to introduce new conditions merely by reexamining wages in a mechanical way, setting minimum scales, reducing the size of bonues, abolishing skill supplements, and combining trades. That is to say, instead of carrying out revolutionary restructuring and effecting a sharp rise in labor productivity, they are concerning themselves with a mechanical shifting of resources from one part of the fund to another, leaving things to all intents and purposes unchanged. Wage-leveling continues to reign supreme there. Such a switch does no good for anyone, has no impact at all, and will never "stimulate" initiative in workers.

At the USSR Ministry of the Automotive Industry's No. 4 State Bearing Plant and Kostroma's "Khleboprodukt" Combine, most specialists have been set new salary scales at a single—minimum—level and, far from being eliminated, wage-leveling has actually been reinforced. At a number of USSR Ministry of Machine Tool and Tool Building Industry associations and enterprises highly skilled workers—toolmakers and fitters in charge of purpose-made equipment—have so far received no labor renumeration advantage. Enterprises have apparently switched to the new remuneration system, but no incentives for carrying our specific kinds of work or for high labor achievements are in operation. One wonders whether, under conditions of wage-leveling, workers will have an interest in further combining trades and increasing labor productivity.

It is no secret that at many enterprises economic services, and sometimes the trade union committees, are the only ones engaged in preparing for introduction of new conditions. The technical and technological subunits, the labor collective councils, and the team leader councils remain on the sidelines. Sociological survey data cited by the Estonian branch of the Labor Scientific Research Institute show that only 13% of workers and under one-third of specialists are involved in preparing for and carrying out restructuring of wages. Hence, a frequently subjective approach to resolving vital tasks exists.

There are quite a few complaints that the administration frequently cuts job prices and increases norms to find money to raise rates and scales, without involving the trade union or collective. What answer can one give? It is outrageous that this should be done without the trade union and the participation of the labor collective. But there is, in principle, only one way of earning money for the new rates and scales—by raising labor productivity. Consequently, the norms also must be reexamined—along with the labor collective, which must play a most direct role here.

The resolution envisages a completely new approach to organizing labor norm-fixing. For the first time in introducing increased new rates and scales, no centralized target for improving performance norms is being set. There has been quite a lot of discussion, and no few misgivings expressed, regarding this: But suppose enterprises on receiving their autonomy take the path of least resistance, that is to say, wish to assume a smaller burden? However, initial experience has shown that such doubts were unfounded. The enterprises which have begun using the new form of labor remuneration have approached the revision of outmoded norms quite objectively and have widely introduced technically validated ones.

But it is true that the work of revising norms at many enterprises is wretchedly organized. Workers, the trade union aktiv, and specialists are not being involved in improving labor norm-fixing. Team leader councils and labor collective councils are standing aside from this big, important work, with the result that no radical change in labor norm-fixing is occurring.

Trade union committees have a special role to play here. They are in general one of the crucial links in restructuring wages. We are talking about production, social, economic, and moral problems, starting with drawing up of a program to switch the enterprises to new forms of remuneration and ending with job placement of the workers and specialists released. We are talking about active participation in certifying workers and jobs, improving norm-fixing, and establishing salary scales—the list can be greatly extended.

The carrying out of large-scale explanatory work is a particularly important task. Poor knowledge on the part of workers and specialists as to the point of economic changes now taking place, accumulating unanswered questions, and lack of clarity all act as brakes on restructuring.

It should be said that the experiment of introducing new conditions of remunerating labor through our own resources is being introduced in the country for the first time and that the mechanism has worked right away. As

a result, workers are actually being released. In addition, enterprises themselves are taking on extra production volume and increasing labor productivity in excess of the 5-year plan targets.

Shmelev Comments on Economic Renewal

PM201251 Moscow SOVETSKAYA KULTURA in Russian 17 Oct 87 p 3

[Interview with Nikolay Petrovich Shmelev of the USSR Academy of Sciences United States and Canada Institute by M. Pork under the "Authoritative Opinion" rubric: "We Have No Other Way"; date and place of interview not stated; first three paragraphs are editorial introduction]

[Text] The name of Nikolay Petrovich Shmelev became widely known quite recently, after the June issue of the journal *Novyy Mir* published his article "Advances and Debts" on problems of the economic and social renewal of our society, around which keen debates have arisen.

N. Shmelev graduated from the economic faculty of Moscow State University, worked at the USSR Academy of Sciences Institute of Economics and then at the USSR Academy of Sciences Institute of the Economy of the World Socialist System and for 5 years now has been working at the USSR Academy of Sciences United States and Canada Institute. He is the author of over 20 works on problems of the world economy.

This year the journal *Znamya* published his story "Pashka's House."

[Pork] I should like to begin our talk with the article "Advances and Debts," which has given rise to many disputes in the frank, honest talk which has developed in the press on urgent economic problems.

[Shmelev] I am not a young man, and I have had enough time to think about what I have seen from one day to the next. I saw the fifties, when the process of sobering up began in the economic field, a process which, it is true, very rapidly started to stumble somewhere at the beginning of the sixties. Together with everyone I welcomed the attempt at reform in the second half of the sixties: Even in the very truncated and limited form in which it was implemented, the reform produced a very substantial effect. Unfortunately, the efforts to implement the reform proved inadequate.

As a professional economist I could not fail to be aware that our economic system was lagging increasingly, losing the race for scientific and technical process, and that the time could come when it would be incapable of resolving the enormously important tasks facing our power. I realized that the reason why social problems were not being resolved is by no means because they cannot be resolved. They were simply being ignored and regarded as "secondary." I had to think a great deal about all this, sometimes falling into professional despair.

We must give their due to many people—both leaders and ordinary people—who even then keenly raised real questions in their speeches and official memorandums. But peace and quiet reigned in the press.

So when an opportunity finally emerged for speaking frankly about what had been piling up all my life, I rejoiced.

I want to stress that the article was commissioned from me by the *Novyy Mir* editorial office and the only request made by chief editor Sergey Zalygin was: "Write everything you think." That is what I tried to do.

[Pork] It is difficult to recall another journalistic item recently which has generated such a varied reaction from readers. Probably the editorial office also received many comments. How do they assess the article? [Shmelev] To be honest I did not count on such a response from readers. There are a great many letters. The overwhelming majority of readers supported me, expressing their solidarity, so I succeeded in finding something which did exist in people's minds and hearts. *Novyy Mir* publishes two comments on "Advances and Debts"—one unreservedly "in favor" and one just as keenly "against."

Of course, now I do not approve myself in every respect. Most of all I am worried that I gave an inaccurate account of the problem of rational employment. Obviously I was somewhat carried away and in the heat of polemics I used words which have basically been compromised, for instance the word "unemployment." I am convinced as a professional that unemployment as such is not a problem for our society.

For us the question lies rather elsewhere. Enormous capacities are standing idle in our industry, although at the same time considerable reserves of manpower concealed in the existing inefficient system of management remain unclaimed. If we succeed in releasing these reserves of manpower and joining them to the lagging production capacities, the economy's effectiveness will increase drastically. Of course, in real life not everything can be resolved by simple arithmetic: Scientific and technical progress generates demands for an improvement in the worker's qualifications. A more flexible, mobile workforce is needed but in Central Asia, for instance, working hands have nowhere to go while elsewhere they are literally gasping because of the lack of people.

All these problems must be resolved and they are soluble. I merely wanted to draw attention to them but it looks as though I got somewhat carried away and I recognize this rebuke as fair.

[Pork] The restructuring process is now affecting various spheres of life. We are trying to rid ourselves of much that is obsolete and ineffective and still living. But our society's chronic ailments cannot always be healed in a few years.

[Shmelev] I am sure that the process of renewal which we are experiencing today in all spheres of life is a revolution organized and directed by the leading force of our society—the party. This is borne out by the dimensions of the socioeconomic tasks which are awaiting solution. The strength of and the need for this revolution lie in the fact that it is supported and approved by the broadest strata of the people. It accords with honest workers' aspirations.

Whatever problem you take, all are closely linked with our people's frame of mind and habits. I am grieved when I hear even from supporters of restructuring: "When will we break a particular ugly phenomenon across our knee?" The habit of resolving any problems, including political ones, "across one's knee"—can we not be rid of this very quickly? There is no other path except consistent, gradual advance when, even if you do sometimes make mistakes, you retain the main thing—faith in the justice of the matter which has been begun.

And another aspect. In restructuring the political superstructure, for instance—be it legislative, executive, or legal power—we feel like a patient who is learning to walk again. Quailing and looking back, we are only just beginning to move toward progress in an attempt to restructure our law enforcement system. I find it very painful that nowadays we speak indistinctly, as though apologizing, of the defects of the legal system. For instance, we are reticent in speaking of the presumption of innocence, not venturing to state openly that it has been the main principle of the legal system since ancient Roman times.

I am not a lawyer and do not have any legal statistics to hand so I shall not generalize. I shall merely say that many of our economic leaders have essentially been punished for the initiative they have displayed. So the result is that initiative is punished in principle inasmuch as quite often success cannot be achieved without bypassing existing and compulsory prohibitions.

So perhaps it is worth considering whether it is not time to change the legislative system, making it such that it can encourage initiative directed toward the benefit of society, such that it can defend enterprising people with socialist resourcefulness from the grim suspicion of those who are guarding only departmental interests, such that it can pass judgment on instructions which delay progress and on their authors?

The same thing applies if you take the economic aspect of restructuring. Unfortunately, impatience is inherent in us. If the reforms do not produce an instant return—if the store shelves are not overflowing with goods, if the standard of living does not soar, if something does not come out right and marks time—it seems to us that restructuring is not proceeding as it should. In actual fact there is nothing more inherent than an economic system. Shaking up something which has taken decades to form and transferring the economy to a new footing is a task of monstrous difficulty and it is simply unrealistic to expect an instant effect, especially since some of our goals conflict with each other.

It is now becoming increasingly obvious that there are whole sectors in which it is pointless to plan a compulsory growth in commodity output, irrespective of quality. Why produce depots filled with output no one needs? And we are talking now not only of shoes but also of tractors and combines. It will probably be difficult to effect an accelerated growth tempo and at the same time a transition to full economic accountability [khozraschet] that is, an increase in the interest of enterprises and people in the quality of their labor. We must seek a balance here.

We must also overcome the resistance of the opponents of economic reform who, by giving their leisurely agreement and consent, are trying to drown it in red tape and to put everything on the former footing. Some of our administrative structures fail to understand that the economy has turned elsewhere in earnest and for a long time, that there is no other way out of the precrisis state mentioned at the CPSU Central Committee June Plenum. For instance, in introducing stable normatives for deductions from profit for enterprises, how is it possible to force them to give over 90 percent of their profit to the ministry? This causes irreparable harm to restructuring.

One can also understand that 18 million big and small chiefs is a lot for our country and a considerable proportion of them are simply not necessary. Of course, these people are anxious for their fate and do not want to reshape their lives and leave their old familiar places and, naturally, they are trying to delay the new elements which might threaten their social prestige, affluence, and customary way of life.

Finally, many people realize that this restructuring cannot proceed painlessly for everyone. For instance, today many people are fearful of a possible increase in prices for food and municipal services. Yet a prices reform can be implemented in such a way that the overwhelming majority of the population feels no reduction in its living standard. Any increase in prices can be compensated by a corresponding increase in wages for particular categories of the population, by a reduction in the sharply increased prices for many industrial goods in our country, and by an increase in the coefficient of revenue on the money kept in state savings banks.

We must speak of this openly. We have started a complex revolutionary matter and it cannot be implemented without the people's support. By the start of the eighties

we had entered an impasse, and had all entered it together, not some of us individually. We must emerge from it by minimizing inevitable expenditure.

[Pork] You started to speak of the dramatic nature of restructuring, about how some people will as a result inevitably be removed from their usual business. What is the relationship between restructuring and morality?

[Shmelev] For me there is a kind of law on the connection between the economy and morality. It can be formulated as follows: Everything which is ineffective is immoral and vice versa. The move toward effectiveness which according to economic laws cannot fail to give us a positive return in the immediate future both in the field of scientific and technical progress and from the viewpoint of an improvement in our country's material and cultural welfare cannot fail to be basically moral.

For instance, some metallurgical production facility is obsolescent and it is clear to everyone that the plant must be closed, that it is unreliable and ineffective and cannot be modernized. Of course, it would be immoral and, if you like, economically ineffective, to show no concern for its collective. The state not only can but must help people to acquire new qualifications, to find new work, and, perhaps, to render them material support for a while. We cannot abandon our social gains, of which the main one is concern for man.

The state system today is seeking new, effective paths. Of course, it was cozier for some people in the stagnation in which we found ourselves in the seventies, but the country has no intention of living in it any more and it is gradually putting itself on firm ground with every passing day. And every person must help the country.

[Pork] How, in your view, are people accepting restructuring? Are they adequately prepared morally to welcome the changes?

[Shmelev] I would not venture to give a simple answer to this question. Many people with whom I am linked in life support restructuring although they realize that they will have to renounce their personal tranquillity. But many people are also not ready.

Nonetheless, we should be given confidence by the fact that the irreversibility of the changes is becoming increasingly obvious and people are not so conservative that they cannot understand that there is no alternative to advancing along the path which the party has developed and which we now call restructuring.

[Pork] In your opinion, how are we to persuade everybody of the need to restructure themselves?

[Shmelev] We must explain, persuade, and allow everyone to express themselves. The development of glasnost and democracy [sentence as published]. Although I am not a supporter of forcible measures, when something dense and shameless in its gut-egotism bars the road, we must sometimes "use authority." Particularly when people who only yesterday deserved no other name than lickspittle or sycophants are militating for restructuring. These people are now also sometimes shouting loudly about restructuring and moral purity, pretending that there is nothing dearer to them than the supreme state interest. Unprincipled chameleons are of course incapable of undermining faith in restructuring but they can give rise to doubts and case a shadow on this great business. We must always remember who they were before. After all, we are not setting the task of settling accounts with anyone or of giving up on them, but we simply must neutralize the activity of people who are associating themselves with restructuring for selfish reasons.

The two most serious dangers threatening restructuring today are as follows: blathering on about restructuring and stifling it quietly and by degrees.

Today you will not find a single ministry which does not verbally advocate restructuring but when it has reached the specific matter of allowing an enterprise to dispose of its profit itself they have come to a standstill: "Don't you dare without approval!" Of course I am putting the question crudely but those who are keen on, those who specialize in, idle chatter and "smothering with pillows" are highly qualified people nurtured by our bureaucratic administrative system of many years' standing.

[Pork] Several times during our talk you have repeated the word "if..." Are there real dangers of turning back?

[Shmelev] As long as the forces exist to whose advantage it is to change our course by 180 degrees and begin to move in the opposite direction, these dangers will exist. I venture to make a forecast: I think they will not be able to, I am even convinced they will not succeed. After all, the movement toward common sense and normalization in all spheres of life—economic, cultural, and moral—is not the result of someone's good will. It is a process dictated by the requirements of the positive development of society, even if it is proceeding more slowly than we would like. In our complex world no one can be allowed to lag behind, sleeping is too expensive a pleasure, and still less will anyone succeed in sitting it out, cutting themselves off from the urgent problems of the present day.

Problems in Statistics Work Discussed

PM210701 Moscow SOBRANIYE POSTANOVLENIY PRAVITELSTVA SSSR: OTDEL Russian No. 34,1987pp 706-716

[CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers resolution dated 17 July 1987: "On Measures To Radically Improve Statistical Work in the Country"]

[Text] The CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers point out that, in accordance with the decisions of the 27th Party Congress and the CPSU

Central Committee January (1987) and June (1987) Plenums on the radical reform of economic management, it is necessary to fundamentally restructure statistical work in the country and substantially enhance the role of statistical organs in the system of national economic leadership in order to make the statistical service an effective instrument of efficient planned management under the new conditions of economic management.

The existing statistical system does not fully meet the needs of the economic leadership at the statewide, sectoral, and regional levels of management for reliable, timely, and profoundly analytical statistical information.

The state of statistical organs' analytical work does not meet modern requirements, and many data do not reflect the essence of economic phenomena. The most important processes of expanded socialist reproduction and the trends and natural laws of social development are investigated superficially, and their analysis is not aimed at seeking reserves for economic growth or revealing the main reasons for shortcomings in economic activity. In-depth study of scientific and technical progress, of the renewal and retooling of the production apparatus, resource saving, and the structural changes in the national economy is not ensured.

The system of generalizing statistical indicators needs serious improvement. The prevailing system of statistical reporting is still cumbersome, is oriented to a considerable degree toward the coarse approach in assessing work results, and chiefly reflects quantitative characteristics, rather than qualitative transformations. Statistics relating to social and regional questions are particularly lagging behind, the sociological research methods employed by the statistical service are imperfect, and the population is not provided with adequate statistical information. International statistical comparisons have not been properly developed.

An extremely unsatisfactory struggle is being waged against mushrooming statistical reporting, deception, and overreporting, which do tremendous harm to the national economy. An atmosphere of universal intolerance toward the distortion of statistical reporting—virtual deception of the party and the state—has not yet been created in many labor collectives. Party, soviet, and economic organs fail to make a principled evaluation of these phenomena.

USSR ministries and departments, union republic councils of ministers, and local management organs have not taken the necessary measures to overcome neglect in accounting and instill strict state order in it and are continuing to ask subordinate associations and enterprises for numerous pieces of information not occasioned by actual management needs.

As a consequence of imposing groundless restrictions on the publication of statistical materials there has been an appreciable deterioration in the supply of information to the public, the propaganda activity of statistical organs has been weakened, and the possibilities for social science research have been reduced.

State statistical organs cooperate poorly with other economic departments, and the role of these organs in the management system has been belittled.

The organizational structure of the state statistical service, the material and technical base of statistical organs, and the composition and qualifications of their cadres do not meet modern requirements.

In order to radically improve statistical work in the country, the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers resolve:

1. The state statistical service is to be restructured to increase its impact on accelerating the country's socioeconomic development and enhancing the role of statistical organs in the system of national economic leadership.

The comprehensive study of the profound transformations and economic and social processes taking place in society on the basis of a scientifically substantiated system of indicators, the generalization and forecasting of development trends in the national economy, the revealing of the reserves that exist for increasing social production efficiency, and the timely provision of reliable information to party, soviet, economic management, and economic organs and the broad public are to be considered the most important tasks of the state statistical service under the new conditions of economic management.

Improving Economic Analysis and Statistical Information [subhead]

2. State statistical organs are to ensure an abrupt shift toward qualitative indicators, the restructuring of analytical activity, and a substantial improvement in the quality of economic analysis by directing it toward the timely and full revelation of the potential for developing the economy and enhancing the people's well-being. They are to concentrate their activity on the systematic study and in-depth analysis of:

The processes of accelerating socioeconomic development on the basis of scientific and technical progress, the restructuring of structural and investment policy, the intensification of social production, and the improvement of the management system and methods of economic management;

the proportional and balanced nature of the economy and the results of the measures being taken to further enhance it;

the fulfillment of state economic and social development plans and of statewide and regional programs for resolving the most important national economic problems;

the implementation of the party's social policy and the process of improving the socialist way of life;

the results of fulfilling the comprehensive programs for the CEMA countries' socialist economic integration and scientific and technical progress and the efficiency of foreign economic ties.

3. In economic analysis paramount attention is to be devoted to ensuring a new quality of economic growth, the all-around intensification of social production, product quality and conformity with world standards, resource saving, the efficient use of the existing production potential and natural, material, and financial resources, increasing labor productivity, accelerating the turnover rate of circulating capital, and increasing the profitability of social production.

4. The content and makeup of report indicators characterizing the development of science and technology are to be substantially revised, and a more profound study is to be made of the state of affairs in the main directions of scientific and technical progress, the fulfillment of the targets of state targeted and comprehensive scientific and technical programs and plans for the retooling and modernization of production, as well as the efficiency of the development of intersectoral scientific and technical complexes, fundamental and applied research, and VUZ and sectoral science.

5. Analysis of the restructuring of structural and investment policy and the extent of its influence on ensuring the proportional development of the economy and the balanced nature of material-physical and value proportions, physical production, and the social sphere is to be stepped up.

6. The continuous study of the results of the current radical reform of economic management and of its economic and social consequences must be an important direction in the further development of the statistical service.

A fundamentally new approach to assessing the economic activity of associations, enterprises, and organizations is to be realized in the statistical service, proceeding from modern management conditions on the basis of full economic accountability [khozyaystvennyy raschet], the new procedure for drawing up economic and social development plans, and the strengthening of the role of qualitative indicators.

The statistical study and broad coverage of progress in implementing measures for comprehensively improving the management system, transferring enterprises and organizations to full economic accountability and self-financing, and shaping modern organizational management structures are to be organized, with compulsory evaluation of those measures' effectiveness.

7. Information is to be widened significantly, and the quality of statistical materials characterizing social development of Soviet society is to be enhanced: observance of the socialist principle of labor remuneration according to the quantity and quality of labor, satisfaction of the population's demand for goods and services, resolution of the housing problem, creation of a modern, highly developed sociocultural services sphere, activation of the human factor, and improvement of the socialist way of life.

Indicators reflecting processes of improving socialist production, social class, and national relations, development of democracy and self-management, and implementation of the principle of social justice are to be elaborated and introduced into the practice of statistical generalizations. Social statistics are to be reorganized, and elaboration of a comprehensive, scientifically substantiated, integrated system of information on social development and the increase in people's living standards is to be ensured based on all-union population censuses, current statistics, and special sociodemographic investigations.

It is to be deemed necessary to substantially increase the network of families under constant investigation by statistical organs, ensuring that it is more fully representative of union republics, economic regions, sectors of the national economy, and social groups of the population. Various selective sociodemographic investigations are to be conducted more widely, and they are to assume a regular nature. Statistical organs are to step up coordination of work on the statistical study of all sociodemographic processes in the country.

Jointly with the AUCCTU and the USSR State Committee for Labor and Social Problems, statistical organs are to ensure systematic study of public opinion with regard to socioeconomic questions. They are to be granted the right to involve appropriate organizations, educational institutions, scientific establishments, and enterprise sociological services in conducting polls. Party and soviet organs are to be given the necessary assistance in organizing this work.

8. The theory and practice of international comparisons of economic and social indicators are to be improved, and there is to be more in-depth analysis of the chief problems of economic, scientific, and technical cooperation with socialist countries, foreign economic ties, and economic competition between socialist and capitalist systems.

Statistics of foreign economic ties are to be centralized within the system of statistical organs. A systematic study is to be made of the world economy, priority directions of technical progress, and organization of production in foreign countries.

9. The scientific and methodological standard of balance-sheet work is to be enhanced in statistics, and above all in formation of national economic balances reflecting the most important economic proportions—balances of social product and national income, the state's financial and payment balances, balances of the population's monetary income and expenditure, fixed capital, and labor resources. The role of these balances in integration of sectoral and territorial statistics is to be enhanced. State statistical organs are to take measures to radically improve the methodology of drawing up and applying balances, to reduce time taken to carry out balance-sheet work, and to improve its quality.

10. In connection with the increasing role and responsibility of union republic councils of ministers and local soviets for comprehensive socioeconomic development of republics and regions, measures are to be implemented to substantially improve organization of regional statistics, with a view to supplying reliable and timely information for needs of the national economy's leadership at the rayon (city), oblast (kray), and republic levels. Provision is to be made for full coverage of information on activities of the enterprises and organizations situated on the corresponding territory, regardless of their departmental subordination, for a unified method of arranging indicators, and for their comparability with analogous data for the USSR.

11. Cooperation is to be stepped up between statistical organs and other economic organs on questions of the comprehensive elaboration of socioeconomic problems and of providing national economic planning and management with the necessary information and forecasts. The annual submission of reports on the economic status of the country, union republics, krays, and oblasts by statistical organs jointly with planning organs—reports which characterize the general state of the economy and the changes taking place in it and which contain measures to further develop it—is to be introduced into the practice of analytical work. Surveys are to be drawn up with regard to the most important aspects of economic and social life.

12. To improve the quality of economic and sociological analysis and statistical information, the theoretical level, comprehensiveness, and practical significance of scientific research into statistics are to be enhanced, its organization is to be improved, and it is to be directed toward studying fundamental problems of developing the economy and implementing an active social policy. The elaboration of methodological questions of arranging statistical indicators is to be brought into line with modern requirements, and wider use is to be made of economic-mathematical methods of processing statistical information. The system of statistical and, above all, generalizing indicators is to be improved with a view to ensuring that they objectively reflect the special features at the contemporary stage of the country's socioeconomic development and the strengthening of the cost-cutting mechanism of economic management.

Regularizing Statistical Reporting and Ensuring Its Authenticity [subhead]

13. In accordance with the restructuring of management, planning, and the economic mechanism, the entire system of state statistical reporting in the national economy is to be improved, excesses are to be eliminated, and constant work is to be done to rationalize it.

All state organs of management and party, soviet, and public organizations are to be categorically prohibited from demanding—and enterprises and organizations from submitting—any summaries and reports not provided for in state statistical reporting.

Statistical reporting, including reports gathered and accumulated in sectoral and regional automated control systems, is introduced and approved only by state statistical organs or in accordance with the procedure laid down by them.

Statistical organs are to bring to light and rescind statistical reporting not approved in the prescribed manner, regarding the gathering of superfluous information as the replacement of living organizational work by excessive paperwork and bureaucratic methods of leadership, which hinder the development of enterprises' and organizations' independence.

14. During 1987-1988 state statistical organs, ministries, and departments are to rework all existing normative acts and instructions relating to the constituents of statistical reporting and bring them into line with the requirements of the new economic mechanism and the USSR Law on the State Enterprise (Association).

15. With a view to enhancing the quality of statistical reports, ensuring their authenticity, and reducing the time taken to draw them up and submit them for the needs of state and economic leadership, statistical organs are to ensure the transition to organizing the gathering, accumulation, processing, and transfer of statistical information on the basis of new technology founded on the wide use of modern communications, computer, and organizational equipment. Information flows in the national economy are to be regularized, and cooperation is to be ensured between sectoral, functional, and regional automated control systems and the automated system of state statistics.

16. State statistical organs are to increase the standard of work on enhancing the quality and authenticity of report data on the results of the activities of enterprises and

organizations. Control over the state of accounting and statistical reporting and over the authenticity of statistical data in sectors of the national economy is to be decisively strengthened.

USSR ministries and departments and union republic councils of ministers are to take measures to radically improve the organization of primary accounting and statistical reporting in subordinate enterprises and organizations, strictly fulfill legislation on these questions, and enhance the responsibility of officials for preventing overreporting and other distortions of state statistical reporting.

17. State statistical organs and financial, bank, and monitoring organs are to step up cooperation in the struggle against overreporting and deception, regularize the procedure and periodicity of conducting checks, ensure their comprehensiveness, and strive persistently and scrupulously for results from every check. Statistical organs are to be entrusted with coordinating this work at all levels of economic management; in every instance where cases of distorted statistical reporting are established, the corresponding enterprises and organizations are to be given instructions on making the necessary corrections—instructions which must be carried out.

In work on ensuring authenticity in statistical reporting the orientation is to be more toward preventive measures and strengthening economic methods of monitoring the end results of the activities of enterprises and organizations.

18. It shall be deemed necessary to expand the use of economic and legal levers in the struggle against overreporting and window dressing, and to strive to completely recoup any damage done to the state resulting from the unjustified writing off of the cost of fuel, energy, raw and other materials, and illegally paid wages and bonuses, as well as other violations of state discipline.

19. The role of labor collectives is to be enhanced and their rights expanded in monitoring the accuracy of data relating to the fulfillment of state plans and pledges; all cases of distortions of state reporting and the measures taken in that regard are to be discussed.

Leaders of enterprises, organizations and other guilty officials will bear personal responsibility for cases of overreporting, window dressing, and other distortions of state reporting; they shall be subject to disciplinary, material, or criminal proceedings.

In the struggle against overreporting and window dressing fuller use is to be made of the mass media—the press, radio, and TV—and questions of the accuracy of reported data are to be constantly monitored.

20. Law enforcement organs are to make timely examinations of documents relating to overreporting and other distortions in state reporting. The monitoring of the effectiveness of measures to combat overreporting, to prevent, reveal, and put a timely stop to these crimes, and to ensure the inevitability of punishment for the guilty parties is to be stepped up.

Expansion of Glasnost in Statistics [subhead]

21. Glasnost in statistical information is to be substantially expanded as an extremely necessary avenue in democratizing Soviet society, involving working people in running the affairs of state, and developing self-management at enterprises and organizations. To that end, guided by Lenin's directive on the need to take statistics to the masses, statistical organs' information and propaganda activity is to be stepped up.

Statistics are to be used as an important means of effectively cooperating with other countries, ensuring more active and widespread participation by the USSR in international relations, and strengthening trust.

22. The methods of providing information to the population on national economic development and changes in the country's economic and social life are to be improved. The publication of statistical materials and the practice of organizing press releases and statistical publications for the population's information are to be expanded. The mass media are to make more active use of such press releases to efficiently publicize the progress of plan fulfillment for economic and social development and the implementation of restructuring in all spheres of social life.

Statistical organs are to be instructed to improve the provision of statistical materials to scientific research organizations and VUZ's,viewing this is an important condition for improving the efficiency of research in the social sciences, primarily economics.

23. Regular statistical surveys are to be published on the main national economic sectors, on the union republics, krays, and oblasts, and on certain topics—the most important economic and social problems. The content and structure of statistical publications are to be improved to include the necessary methodological explanations, and the publications are to more fully reflect materials on selective surveys and other analytical reports.

An information publishing center tasked with the publication of statistical surveys, bulletins, press releases, and other statistical publications and with supplying statistical materials to the mass media and scientific and educational establishments is to be set up within the statistical organs' system along economically accountable lines.

24. In order to enhance the public's role in improving accounting and reporting, and in carrying out statistical surveys and checks it is deemed necessary for councils of

public inspectors of state statistics drawn from representatives of the accounting and statistical services of ministries, departments, associations, enterprises, and organizations to be set up under statistical organs, with their staff approved by ispolkoms.

25. The work of the journal *Vestnik Statistiki* is to be improved in line with present-day demands. Articles on the economic and social development of the country, union and autonomous republics, krays, oblasts, okrugs, cities, and regions in terms of theoretical and practical statistical problems are to be expanded. The front-ranking experience of the activity of statistical organs is to be more fully publicized, and leading scientists, economic leaders, and specialists are to be involved in preparing articles for the journal.

The Reorganization and Enhancement of the Role of Statistical Organs [subhead]

26. It is deemed expedient to transform the USSR Central Statistical Administration into the Union Republic USSR State Committee for Statistics (USSR Goskomstat)—the country's main accounting and statistical center.

27. It is laid down that the USSR State Committee for Statistics, guided by the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee June (1987) Plenum, carries out the state administration of statistical work, accounting, and reporting in all sectors of the national economy, and bears full responsibility for the creation and functioning of the statistical information system at state, sectoral, and regional levels on the basis of unified scientific methodology.

It is deemed expedient to set up committees of the same name in the union republics.

The administration of statistics in autonomous republics, krays, and oblasts is to be organized on the basis of the corresponding statistical administrations and economically accountable associations for computing services. It is deemed necessary to organize the activity of the aforesaid administrations in conformity with the USSR Law on the State Enterprise (Association).

The USSR State Committee for Statistics, union republic state committees for statistics, oblast (kray, autonomous) statistical administrations, and city and rayon statistics departments shall comprise the USSR State Committee for Statistics integrated system.

28. The powers of the USSR State Committee for Statistics in organizing accounting and reporting in the national economy are to be expanded, with the committee granted the right:

to monitor the fulfillment by ministries, departments, enterprises, and organizations of normative acts on questions of statistics, accounting, and reporting;

to check the state of work at ministries, departments, enterprises, and organizations in the organization of accounting and reporting and the provision of accurate data, to listen to their reports on these questions, and to give them binding instructions to eradicate any violations;

to obtain data relating to intradepartmental reporting from ministries, departments, enterprises, and organizations.

It shall be laid down that the normative acts issued by soviet and union republic ministries and departments on questions of statistics and accounting are binding for other ministries and departments, and are to be coordinated in advance with the USSR State Committee for Statistics or the respective union republic state committee for statistics.

29. The USSR State Committee for Statistics is to eradicate shortcomings in cadre work, to improve cadre selection, placement, and education, to step up the demands that statistical organs be staffed with highly qualified cadres, and to create the necessary working and leisure conditions for them. Cadres' qualifications are to be constantly enhanced and their professional training improved.

The USSR Gosplan and the USSR Ministry of Higher and Secondary Specialized Education are to expand the training of the best qualified cadres in accounting and statistical specialisms in order to completely meet the demand for them from state statistical organs and national economic sectors. A high level of political and economic education is to be combined with in-depth knowledge in the sphere of specific economics, modern computing equipment, and statistical information processing techniques.

30. Union republic communist party central committees, party kraykoms, obkoms, gorkoms, and raykoms, union and autonomous republic councils of ministers, and krayispolkoms, oblispolkoms, gorispolkoms, and rayispolkoms are to promote in every possible way the further enhancement of state statistical organs' role in implementing the tasks of the country's economic and social development and in turning them into active proponents of the party's economic policy. [signed] M. Gorbachev, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee

N. Ryzhkov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers

Correction to 9-Month Plan Fulfillment Report

The following correction pertains to the item headlined "Goskomstat Report on 9-Month Plan Fulfillment," published in the 22 October Soviet Union *Daily Report*, pages 60-76:

page 66, column two, penultimate entry of tabulation: ...Feed-harvesting combines, thousands... (changing "Grain harvesting" to "Feed-harvesting")

page 67, column two, last entry of tabulation entitled "Chemical Industry and Timber Complex": ...Paper, million tonnes, 4.6, 99.4, 99.7, of which newsprint, billion square meters, 26.7, 100.6, 103... (changing "26.7, 10, 0.6" to "26.7, 100.6, 103)

Agricultural

Early October Weather, Crop Status Reported

PM221447 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 15 Oct 87 p 1

["Weather and Crops" by Agricultural Meteorologist N. Korenkova]

[Text] After September's rainy, cool weather, dry, sunny weather has set in over all of the country's European sector. The average air temperature for the first 10 days in October was close to the perennial mean in most regions but in regions to the south of a line linking Chernovtsy, Kirovograd, Dnepropetrovsk, Voronezh, Penza, Ulyanovsk, and Ufa it was 2-3 degrees lower than the perennial mean, while in Krasnodar and Stavropol Krays it was 3-5 degrees lower than the annual mean.

Conditions favored the completion of harvesting work in most of the regions of the European territory. Light rain, which fell for 1-3 days in the Baltic republics, Belorussia, the west of the Ukraine, Moldavia, the North Caucasus, and the Volga-Vyatka and Ural Regions (total precipitation under 10mm), did not particularly impede this work. Precipitation was not recorded over the remaining territory. However, frosts could have damaged potatoes and heat-loving vegetable crops which have been dug up but not gathered in.

In the majority of the territory of the Volga-Vyatka and Ural Regions and in the northern half of the Volga Region winter grain crop vegetation was only observed in daylight hours. Winter rye sown at the beginning of August has tillered to the extent of 2-3 shoots.

Conditions were good in the Baltic republics and in most of the oblasts in the North-west, North, and Central Regions for the growth and development of winter grain crops. Winter crops sown in August and at the beginning of September have tillered. Crops sown later were at the shoot-formation and third-leaf stage. Their condition is primarily good. In Belorussia, the western and northern oblasts of the Ukraine, and also in the majority of the Central Chernozem Region, and in the southern half of the Volga Region crops sown in August have tillered to the extent of 2-3 shoots .

There has been cool weather in the cropfarming areas of Siberia and in most of Kazakhstan. The average air temperature for the 10-day period in Siberia and in the northern part of Kazakhstan was mainly 2-5 degrees lower than the perennial mean. Light frosts (from minus 1 to minus 9 degrees) have been reported everywhere. In most cropfarming regions in Siberia and in the north-east of Kazakhstan cool weather with rain, turning to snow in places has created unfavorable conditions for completing harvesting.

For most of the 10-day period weather conditions in Central Asia were favorable for the ripening and harvesting of the cotton crop. They have considerably deteriorated since 7 October; there has been a sharp decrease in the air temperature and precipitation has occurred. The rain which has fallen has, however, supplemented the supply of moisture in the fields.

Goskomstat Reports Harvest Figures

LD222210 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1200 GMT 22 Oct 87

[Text] Today we have the chance to aquaint you with material from the latest report of the USSR State Committee for Statistics. It provides information regarding work in the fields. From this information it is clear that the harvesting of potatoes and sugar beet is coming to an end. However, a lot of sun flowers and corn for grain still remains to be harvested. Winter crops are taking up 36 million hectares, 93 % of the plan. But more winter crops this year have been sown by methods of intensive technology than last year. Work such as plowing is notably delayed; the harvest of significant amounts of spring crops depends on when it will be carried out.

Khrushchev Opponent on Antierosion Measures

PM220825 [Editorial report] Moscow *Komsomolskaya Pravda* in Russian 7 October 1987 carries on pages 1,2 under the headline "Aleksandr Barayev's Virgin Lands" a 3,000-word article by correspondent M. Petrov, datelined Tselinograd Oblast, under the rubric "People of the Revolution." The article describes how the initial "enthusiasm" for the Kazakhstan Virgin Lands project in 1954 gave way to "alarm and disappointment" until, by 1964, it "seemed hopeless." The revival of the project in the sixties is credited by the writer to Lenin Prize winner Aleksandr Barayev and the anti-erosion system he created.

Appointed director of the Kazakh Scientific Research Institute of Grain Farming in the Virgin Lands in 1957, Barayev set about protecting the "15,000 or 20,000 hectares of land (or as many hectares as would be plowed—all of them) from erosion. Barayev's idea nourished the Virgin Lands and helped them withstand the onslaught of natural and administrative storms—and triumph." In 1960 Barayev opposed the "shock work" method of early sowing advocated by Academician Lysenko. The writer continues:

"In 1964 the center of the new scientific debate switched once more to the [grain farming] institute in Shortandy. N.S. Khrushchev, who visited it in August, questioned the need to leave one-fifth or even one-fourth of the plowland fallow. His remark that the land must provide the maximum yield right now inspired Barayev's opponents.

"But grain was not only needed for the present. The Virgin Lands must also serve our descendants. This was Barayev's main thought when he reentered the debate."

Petrov describes Barayev's success in defending the fallow policy and goes on: "The country needs the Virgin Land protection package today. It needs it badly. It is all the more distressing to admit that people are in no hurry to introduce it in those places where it is needed most of all. In the seventies the center of the dust storms moved from Kazakhstan and Siberia to the southern regions of the European USSR. That is where they ought to study the Barayev system anew and adapt it to local conditions. The Kalmyk ASSR, the North Caucasus, and many oblasts in the Ukraine are still waiting for our help." And the writer concludes: "In the past 100 years 15 % of the earth's surface has been destroyed by erosion. More than 25 % of all plowland in the world has gone out of use forever. Ravines alone swallow up 264 hectares of the most fertile land a day.

"Think about it!

"From space the earth looks quite small, like a balloon that someone has lost. To talk about the 20 million hectares of Kazakh Virgin Lands—this small island of green—probably seems petty. But it is an island of our hopes for the future..."

Media Report 20-21 October Developments

LD220259 [Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of reports on agricultural developments in the USSR carried by Moscow Domestic Service in Russian, unless otherwise indicated, on 20-21 October. GMT times of broadcasts are given in parentheses at the end of each item.

20 October

In Uzbekistan farmers today finished picking their 3 millionth metric ton of cotton. (0304)

In Saratov Oblast more than 200,000 metric tons of sugar beets have been delivered to date. (0500)

Threshing of grain crops is being carried out on the last hectares in the Transbaykal. To date, the plan for gross grain yield has been fulfilled, and 200,000 metric tons of grain has arrived at reception points. (1200)

21 October

Agro-industrial workers in Tataria have met their socialist pledges. They have fulfilled ahead of schedule their yearly plans for the sale of vegetables, potatoes, and sugar beets. (0304)

The harvest of sugar beets has ended in Penza Oblast; 100,000 metric tons have been sold to the state above plan. (1200)

Farms of northern Kazakhstan have threshed grain on 23 million hectares and have now begun on the final 1 million hectares. Some 26 million metric tons of grain has arrived at farm threshing floors. (1600)

The grain harvest has been completed in the Irkutsk Oblast. Although it was an extremely difficult harvest the farmers managed to get almost 19 quintals per hectare instead of the 16.5 quintals planned. Now that they have completed the sale of grain to the state, the collective and state farms along the Angara are to sell another 50,000 metric tons to the state. Sales of grain to the state and the laying in of seeds are continuing. (1900)

Science

'Cosmos-1893' Satellite Launched

LD230801 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0748 GMT 23 Oct

[Text] Moscow, 23 Oct (TASS)—Another artificial earth satellite, "Cosmos-1893," was launched in the Soviet Union on 22 October 1987.

The satellite carries scientific apparatus for continuing space research.

The satellite has been placed in orbit with the following parameters: initial period of revolution, 89.7 minutess; apogee, 374 kms; perigee, 179 kms; and orbital inclination, 67 degrees.

Besides scientific apparatus, the satellite carries a radio system for precise measurement of orbital elements and a radio-telemetry system for transmitting to earth data about the work of the instruments and scientific apparatus.

The apparatus aboard the satellite is functioning normally.

The coordinating and computing center is processing the incoming information.

Academician Describes Intercosmos Forum

PM221029 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 8 Oct 87 First Edition p 4

[Academician V. Kotelnikov article: "Working Together in Space"; first paragraph is PRAVDA introduction]

[Text] An international forum, "Cooperation in Space in the Name of Peace on Earth," has ended its work in Moscow. Academician V. Kotelnikov, chairman of the "Intercosmos" Council, talks about its results:

"The present meeting of specialists from different countries working in the sphere of cosmonautics was dedicated to the 30th anniversary of the launching of the USSR's first satellite. Naturally, many lectures and speeches discussed the long distance travelled by cosmonautics over these years. But the forum was focused on the future to no less a degree.

"The socialist countries cooperating within the framework of the 'Intercosmos' program have made an enormous contribution to space studies. More than 20 satellites have been launched, major joint research projects have been implemented, and cosmonauts from the 'Intercosmos' member countries, along with their Soviet colleagues, have worked on Soviet spaceships and orbital stations. "A feature of the present stage of research is that the makeup of participants in the joint work is becoming increasingly broad. Representatives from the developed capitalist countries and other states are also taking part in it. Thus, cosmonauts from Bulgaria and France are now being trained for manned flights to the stars, and plans are being discussed for participation of cosmonauts from Afghanistan and Austria in further expeditions. The efforts of 12 states have been combined in the 'Phobos' project connected with the study of Mars and one of its satellites. Soviet scientists have asked all interested scientific organizations, including foreign ones, to make proposals for the further study of Mars. The general outline of our work on Mars through the year 2000 and beyond is already clear. But it is understood that the work is not only limited to the 'Martian' theme. There are projects for studying the asteroids and other celestial bodies. "Cosmonautics is well established in the life of mankind. Without the use of satellites, it is now impossible to ensure television, weather service, navigation, and the observation of natural resources.

"The subject of 'commercial space' is becoming more and more topical. In recent years, the Soviet Union has proposed to all interested states an entire series of services which could be offered on a commercial basis,—launching of foreign satellites by Soviet rockets, provision of technical equipment on satellites and orbital stations for preparing different materials and medicines, and photographing of countries' territories on request. All these questions were actively discussed at the forum, and I think the prospects for commercial cosmonautics are very good.

"The USSR is a convinced supporter of the idea that those states which have managed to make progress in developing space technology must give as much assistance as possible in this respect to other countries.

"The holding of International Space Year in 1992 could be a specific manifestation of space cooperation, as was indicated in the statement adopted by the forum's participants. It would include coordinated activity in cosmonautics in 1992 and agreement on planning for future projects going beyond the end of our century. International Space Year would include joint activity on studying global changes in the earth's environment, the planets, the moon, the heliosphere. It would also include research in astrophysics, radio astronomy, solar physics, industrialization of space, and utilization of space technology for educational and medical purposes."

Military

Soviet Generals Perish in Air Crash 19 Oct

PM221615 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 23 Oct 87 First Edition p 1

[Air Crash Announcement: "From the USSR Defense Ministry and Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate"]

[Text] On 19 October 1987, a group of generals and officers of the Soviet Army perished in an air crash [aviatsionnaya katastrofa] during the execution of their service duties.

The USSR Defense Ministry and Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate express profound condolences to the dead comrades' relatives and friends.

Obituaries of Generals

[Editorial Report] Moscow *Krasnaya Zvezda* in Russian in its First Edition on 23 October 1987 carries on page 3 the obituaries of five Soviet generals.

Colonel General Vladimir Petrovich Shutov, deputy chief of a USSR Armed Forces General Staff Main Directorate, is said to have "died in an air crash on 19 October 1987 during the execution of his service duties." The obituary continues:

"V.P. Shutov was born in Vyyezdnyy Village in Arzamasskiy Rayon, Gorkiy Oblast in 1924. He studied at the shipbuilding faculty of an industrial institute and in 1942 was drafted into the Soviet Army. He graduated from the Infantry College.

"He actively participated in the Great Patriotic War, commanding a platoon of machinegunners and a rifle company. In the most complex combat conditions, he displayed personal courage and valor.

"After the war, V.P. Shutov served in command and staff posts. He graduated from the M.V. Frunze Military Academy and the K.Y. Voroshilov USSR Armed Forces General Staff Military Academy. He was deputy chief of staff of the Belorussian Military District and the Group of Soviet Forces in Germany, and deputy chief of the Ground Forces General Staff. Since 1975 he had been deputy chief of a USSR Armed Forces General Staff Main Directorate.

"In all the posts which the party entrusted to V.P. Shutov, he devoted all his strength, knowledge, great experience, and organizational ability to the cause of improving the combat might of the Soviet Army and Navy." The obituary is signed:

"D.T. Yazov, S.F. Akhromeyev, V.G. Kulikov, P.G. Lushev, A.D. Lizichev, N.I. Savinkin, Y.P. Maksimov, Y.F. Ivanovskiy, I.M. Tretyak, A.N. Yefimov, V.N. Chernavin, M.I. Sorokin, S.K. Kurkotkin, V.M. Shabanov, N.F. Shestopalov, V.L. Govorov, D.S. Sukhorukov, N.V. Ogarkov, A.I. Sorokin. V.I. Varennikov, V.N. Lobov, A.I. Gribkov, V.S. Nechayev, M.A. Gareyev, D.A. Volkogonov, A.N. Agafonov, S.A. Dikov, B.A. Omelichev, G.F. Grivosheyev, Y.A. Yevstigneyev, V.F. Tolubko, A.I. Belov, Y.Y. Kondakov, V.V. Korobushin, V.M. Mikhaylov, G.A. Burutin, N.F. Chervov, V.G. Yermin, A.A. Danilevich, F.G. Bunin, V.G. Zudin."

The obituary of Major General Erlen Viktorovich Porfiryev states that he "died in an air crash on 19 October 1987 during the execution of his service duties." The obituary continues:

"E.V. Porfiryev was born in Kiev in 1936. He had risen through the ranks of the Soviet Army from officer cadet to general. On graduating from the Military Academy of Armored Troops named for Marshal of the Soviet Union R.Y. Malinovskiy and the K.YE. Voroshilov USSR Armed Forces General Staff Academy, he occupied command positions in the troops. Recently he had been chief of staff of the Southern Group of Forces." The obituary is signed:

"D.T. Yazov, S.F. Akhromeyev, V.G. Kulikov, P.G. Lushev, A.D. Lizichev, Y.P. Maksimov, Y.F. Ivanovskiy, I.M. Tretyak, A.N. Yefimov, V.N. Chernavin, M.I. Sorokin, S.K. Kurkotkin, V.M. Shabanov, N.F. Shestopalov, V.L. Govorov, D.S. Sukhorukov, A.I. Sorokin, I.A. Gerasimov, A.A. Demidov, N.V. Goncharov, R.V. Gorelov."

The obituary of Lieutenant General Yuriy Ivanovich Ryabinin states that he "died as the result of an air crash on 19 October 1987 during the execution of his service duties." The obituary continues:

"Y.I. Ryabinin was born in Sestroretsk, Leningrad Oblast in 1934. On graduating from the S.M. Budennyy Military Signal Academy, he served with the troops and in responsible posts at the USSR Armed Forces General Staff.

"Y.I. Ryabinin always carried out his party and military duty with a sense of high responsibility, devoting great effort and energy to the cause of further strengthening our Armed Forces." The obituary is signed:

"D.T. Yazov, S.F. Akhromeyev, V.G. Kulikov, P.G. Lushev, A.D. Lizichev, Y.P. Maksimov, Y.F. Ivanovskiy, I.M. Tretyak, A.N. Yefimov, V.N. Chernavin, M.I. Sorokin, S.K. Kurkotkin, V.M. Shabanov, N.F. Shestopalov, V.L. Govorov, D.S. Sukhorukov, A.I. Sorokin, V.S. Nechayev, M.A. Gareyev, K.I. Kobets, D.A. Volkogonov, A.N. Agafonov, A.I. Belov, V.I. Sokolov, A.I. Shumakov, V.G. Yermin, Y.A. Shitov, Y.A. Petryakov, A.P. Zimenkov, N.I. Blazhenov, N.F. Zhilyuk, V.F. Starchikov."

The obituary of Hero of Socialist Labor Lieutenant General Kirill Nikolayevich Trofimov states that he "died as a result of an air crash on 19 October 1987 during the execution of his service duties." The obituary continues:

"K.N. Trofimov was born in Kaluga in 1921. On graduating from the 'Vystrel' course in 1941, he served with the regular army. In the postwar years he served in senior posts in the USSR Defense Ministry apparatus. He had been USSR Armed Forces deputy chief of communications since 1977.

"At all the posts entrusted to K.N. Trofimov he showed exceptional industriousness and high competence in solving the tasks set, and he devoted a great deal of effort and energy to developing Soviet military communications equipment." The obituary is signed:

"D.T. Yazov, S.F. Akhromeyev, V.G. Kulikov, P.G. Lushev, A.D. Lizichev, Y.P. Maksimov, Y.F. Ivanovskiy, I.M. Tretyak, A.N. Yefimov, V.N. Chernavin, M.I. Sorokin, S.K. Kurkotkin, V.M. Shabanov, N.F. Shestopalov, V.L. Govorov, D.S. Sukhorukov, V.I. Gladyshev, A.I. Sorokin, V.S. Semenikhin, A.I. Belov, V.S. Nechayev, M.A. Gareyev, K.I. Kobets, D.A. Volkogonov, A.N. Agafonov, V.I. Sokolov, A.I. Shumakov, V.G. Yermin, Y.A. Shitov, N.F. Zhilyuk, V.F. Starchikov."

The obituary of Major General Vladimir Semenovich Bardashevskiy states that he "died in an air crash on 19 October 1987 during the execution of his service duties." The obituary continues:

"V.S. Bardashevskiy was born in Giaginskaya Hamlet, Krasnodar Kray in 1938. He rose through the ranks of the Soviet Army from officer cadet to general. He was a graduate of the M.V. Frunze Military Academy and the K.Y. Voroshilov USSR Armed Forces General Staff Military Academy. Recently he had been engaged on responsible work at the USSR Armed Forces General Staff." The obituary is signed:

"D.T. Yazov, S.F. Akhromeyev, V.I. Varennikov, V.N. Lobov, A.I. Gribkov, M.A. Gareyev, S.A. Dikov, B.A. Omelichev, A.N. Agafonov, G.F. Krivosheyev, Y.A. Yevstigneyev, Y.Y. Kondakov. V.V. Korobushin, V.M. Mikhaylov, N.F. Chervov, A.A. Danilevich, V.G. Zudin, G.A. Burutin, G.S. Starodubov, F.G. Bunin, A.N. Chernikov, A.I. Osetrov."

The obituaries are followed by a 200-word "Group of Comrades" obituary entitled "In Memory of the Helicopter Crew." It states that "Captain Aleksey Nikolayev Gurenkov, helicopter commander and military pilot first class" and "Senior Lieutenant Aleksandr Ivanovich Goncharov, flight technician and military technician first class" were the "helicopter crew members killed in the 19 October 1987 air crash."

Role of Communist as Example Viewed

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[Editorial: "Example of Communist in Discipline"]

[Excerpts] Today, when we must move increasingly resolutely from words about restructuring to deeds and build up restructuring's results on every work sector and in every collective, the Communist's example is acquiring special significance.

The very concept of "example" has been enriched by the passage of time—it has become broader because demands on the party member have grown immeasurably. Nowadays, it is not enough only to work well yourself. The scope and logic of restructuring have put forward the following task: The Communist is the organizer of restructuring, lending real substance to party plans himself and mobilizing and leading others. It is necessary to fight, in the full sense of the word, to fulfill decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress. Today this is the essence of personal exemplariness and of the Communist's leading role.

Restructuring is not a spontaneous process. It presupposes strict implementation of the course worked out by the party. The increase in organization and discipline by every possible means is one of its key conditions. There is no need to elaborate on how important this condition is for the Armed Forces. The main task for each party organization and each Communist is to make the struggle for a high level of organization, for firm statutory order, and for strong discipline the focus of all their concerns. [passage omitted]

Unfortunately, not every Communist demonstrates such purposefulness, persistence and innovation. But today, we shall stress this once again, organization of work is a fundamental issue in restructuring. The Communist—by to his vocation—is an organizer. He works with people, among the masses, and, as a rule, he has subordinates. He is obliged to find all those paths, often hidden and still unknown and new, which alone can lead to success in educating a conscious military discipline and rallying the military collective. The search for such paths and organization of work with people in the spirit of the time is every Communist's task. Of the district or fleet commander, of the regiment and ship commander, of the category of troops or service chief, of the platoon commander, the political organ chief, and the company party secretary.

Of course, the example of Communist serviceman's personal discipline must, as always, be irreproachable. It should be said that there are Communists who, let us be frank, have let themselves go, have forgotten the notion of military obedience, subordination, courtesy, and a seemly external appearance. In response to the just exactingness displayed toward them, these comrades launch into lengthy expatiations and often lapse into demagoguery, making use of the atmosphere of expanding democratization in our public life to their own ends.

What is the role of the Army and Navy Communist and professional serviceman with regard to the example of his personal discipline? He is a man who is proud of his profession, keenly valuing the honor of the Soviet general, admiral, officer, ensign and warrant officer. He is irreproachable in carrying out orders and observing statutory norms and legality. He is fine in his attitude to work and in his whole countenance, moral purity, military bearing and smartness, thoroughness, and precision in actions. He is highly cultured in his behavior and associations, considering it a disgrace to stoop to abusing his service position, boorishness, coarseness, foul language, and drunkenness. He has the ability to be exacting, sincere, sensitive, and solicitous. He is a person of spotless honor and conscience, morally irreproachable. He is uncompromising toward any manifestations of lack of discipline.

The report and election campaign is now developing in Army and Navy party organizations. Party meetings and meetings of party aktivs which will examine restructuring's first results are not far off. It is important that the theme of the Communists' exemplary nature in increasing discipline should occupy a central place at the meetings. This "working" example should be clearly manifested in the results of the current training year.

Your example is needed, Communist, always and in everything. Your example is needed in large and small matters, ennobling you and inviting others to follow you, cementing and strengthening the military formation with the powerful force of discipline.